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**PRESTON'S COLLEGE**

## A new Comms room for a happy new 'academic' year

Preston's College is one of the largest and most successful colleges in England with notable alumni such as Nick Park (Creator of Wallace and Gromit) and Lenny Henry (Actor and Comedian).

Originally opened in 1974 as the W.R Tuson College then in 1989, the college was taken out of local authority control and became a self-managed corporation and was renamed as Preston College to reflect the College's position in and commitment to the local community. In 2013, it was renamed again and became Preston's College further reinforcing that commitment to the community that they serve.

*The completed Comms room:*



### THE CHALLENGE

The existing Comms Room was 20 years old and the building that housed it was due to be demolished as part of the new investment and redevelopments.

After a tender submission, Comms Room Services were chosen to undertake the project which also included a complete fibre infrastructure upgrade to align the new location of the Comms room.

Preston's College was looking for a specialist who could not only design and build the new Comms room but who could also undertake the fibre installation for the whole site. Timescales were critical, as always is the case in Education, as the project had to be completed during the Summer holidays.

*"As this project had to go to tender the criteria was of course set very high. We were looking for a specialist who instilled in us confidence in their ability. Comms Room Services certainly did this with their surveys and tender submission right through to the planning, execution and completion of the project. We are very pleased with the end result."*

**John Greenwood ICT Services Manager**

*The classroom before the project*



### THE SOLUTION

Once the fit out of the Humanities Building commenced, Comms Room Services installed an N+1 air conditioning system, 6 cabinets, provided all of the electrical design and installation, a single 20kVA UPS to support all of the racks and also a shut down and call out system to.

Smoke detectors and sounder beacons were installed to provide early warning of any potential fire hazard. Alongside this of course was the fibre installation with fibre and data link backbones between the two buildings.

### THE BENEFITS

Preston's College can now benefit from a server room that provides energy efficient solutions and will last them for years to come.

The N+1 air conditioning design provides the resilience required to keep the server room cool and also ensures continuity of the day to day operations of the College. The units chosen were low noise and were completely hidden within in the ceiling void to give a neat and clean finish.

Preston's College also chose to take out a fully comprehensive maintenance contract with Comms Room Services to ensure they have 24/7 cover with a 4hr emergency response so they have total peace of mind.

