



## Press release For Immediate release

## **New Building Extension at Ark Charter Academy**

Ark Charter Academy, Portsmouth City Council, and Midas Construction (part of the MIDAS group) are proud to announce that the "Steelwork" completion ceremony to celebrate the extension, and new build to the Academy will take place on Monday 11 November 2019 at 1.50pm.

Due for completion September 2020, the £4.1million project will transform Ark Charter Academy, Portsmouth, increasing the number of pupil places by 300 students, an eventual total increase in student capacity to 900.

**Steve Lee, Midas Construction, Divisional Director, South and South East, said:** "When finished, this extension will have a lasting, positive impact for generations of schoolchildren. We will be completing the project while the school remains open and our team on site will be working closely with staff to manage the day to day running of the site.

"We also look forward to welcoming the students to take a look around the development and learn more about a rewarding career in construction."

The new two-storey extension will include; state-of-the-art facilities for our students, an extension to our dining area, 10 new specialist classrooms including; Art, ICT, Food Tech and Language, and a new drama suite.

Emily Morey, Principal at Ark Charter Academy, said: "This is an important project that, when completed, will give our school exciting new facilities. It will also enable us to expand our roll, inviting more students to take advantage of the educational opportunities here at Ark Charter Academy. This is something that will benefit the entire community."

We would like to thank Portsmouth City Council for their support in funding and planning in this project major development, and Midas Construction for their expertise in diligence on our new build, both who have been key to the development of Ark Charter Academy.

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## **About Ark**

Ark is a charity which transforms lives through education, and which aims to give every child, regardless of their background, a great education. We are a network of 37 schools in Birmingham, Hastings, London and Portsmouth, educating around 27,000 students. All of Ark's schools are non-selective and are in areas where we can make the biggest difference.

Our GCSE results exceed the national average and our schools are more likely to be rated good or outstanding by Ofsted. Our aim is to create outstanding schools that give every pupil, regardless of their background, the opportunity to go to university or pursue the career of their choice. www.arkschools.org

## **About Midas Group**

The Midas Group is one of the UK's largest independent construction and property services providers. The Group operates across the South of England, Wales and the Midlands and provides four key services as follows:

- Construction Regional construction capability providing construction services across all sectors; including specialist retail and interiors teams.
- Residential specialist residential contractor and developer
- Maintenance specialist planned and reactive maintenance
- Developments property development capability

Midas is one of the region's largest employers, with over 500 people employed across the group. For more information visit www.midasgroup.co.uk