

Case Study

Darlington College



The Client

Darlington College | Launching the Green Zones

Darlington College has long delivered strong vocational training across technical subjects. But as the UK moves rapidly toward its net zero goals, the college recognised the need to further invest in practical green skills training.

Senior Lecturer in Construction Lee Chatterton said renewable industries were transforming the skills requirements of the profession which meant students had to keep pace with fast-changing technology.

To meet this need, Darlington College launched its new Green Zones, a dedicated space designed to prepare students for careers in low-carbon construction and renewable technologies. These facilities give learners hands-on experience with the technologies reshaping the built environment, from efficient heating systems to renewable electricity solutions.



The Engagement

Delivering Renewable Training Bays

Darlington College received funding from the Local Skills Improvement Fund (LSIF) run by the Department of Education, which identified retrofitting as a high priority area in the Tees Valley with an estimated 3.4 million homes in the North East and Yorkshire that require a domestic retrofit.

In response to this, Darlington launched a competitive tender for renewables training equipment which Quantum successfully won as the appointed contractor to deliver both equipment, learning resources and staff training.

Throughout the process, we worked closely with the college team to ensure a smooth installation, and it was great to see the college's student design team get involved with branding, as well as the student bricklaying team who put up the bay walls ready for Quantum to install renewable equipment in.

Low-Carbon Technologies Installed

Two Air Source Heat Pump (ASHP) Training Bays

These bays give students direct access to one of the UK's fastest-growing low-carbon heating technologies. Learners can engage with the full lifecycle of an ASHP system, from installation and maintenance to performance optimisation. With demand for heat pump installers rising, these bays provide essential practical learning for future heating engineers.



Two Electrical Ecosystem Training Bays

Designed for hands-on learning, these bays support skills development in electrical systems that integrate solar PV, battery storage, and EV charging. These technologies are vital to the UK's green energy transition, and this space allows students to understand how they work in real-world contexts.



Quantum's Project Manager and Renewable Installation Team up in Darlington

The Impact

Preparing Students for the Green Economy

The new training bays at Darlington College represent a major step forward in green skills education in the region.

Darlington had experienced the reluctance of older trainers to re-train, emphasizing the importance of encouraging & training new entrants into the industry, using state of the art facilities.

By installing renewable and low-carbon systems that students will encounter on the job, the Green Zones give learners a practical head start.

These bays will support careers in sustainable construction, energy systems, and the broader environmental technologies sector, industries with growing demand and long-term opportunities.



Client Testimonials



Alan Jones, Assistant Principal Darlington College, shared his feedback:

"Working with the Quantum team was seamless from start to finish. They were professional, responsive, and attentive. The product quality consistently exceeded our expectations, and their clear communication made the entire process effective."

"Our team also engaged in training with Quantum, and that became invaluable when our equipment was installed. Overall, we are very happy with our training bays and would recommend Quantum to anyone looking for a training solution in Renewable Energy."



Building the Green Workforce of Tomorrow

At Quantum, we are driven to address the UK's Green Skills shortage by providing world-class training solutions in low carbon technologies, sustainable building practices and retrofitting.

*If your institution is ready to invest
in building the UK's green
workforce, we're ready to help.*

