



MEDIA RELEASE

## **EVERTON FIGHTING FIT WITH WATES CONSTRUCTION**

The new North Liverpool Academy on St Domingos Road in Everton has had its sports facilities improved thanks to a £50,000 award from Wates Construction through its Wates Giving programme.

Working in partnership with North Liverpool Academy, Wates has transformed a former boxing club into a brand new sports changing facilities for the benefit and use of the Academy's students and the wider community in Everton.

The new facilities will enable local people to access the Academy's impressive sports pitches more easily and effectively, avoiding having to gain access through the school.

The award has been made through the Wates family charity Wates Giving, which is run as part of the Wates Family Enterprise Trust, as a gesture of support to North Liverpool Academy and the local community. Wates has been working in the area to produce the striking Jaguar door-handle inspired building for the past two years and was keen to give something back to the students, teachers and surrounding neighbourhood.

Andrew Wates, former Chairman of the Wates Family Holdings and 3<sup>rd</sup> generation family board member of the Wates Group, met with North Liverpool Academy to hand over the award

Andrew Wates commented: "It is my pleasure to be able to provide this award through our charity, Wates Giving; I hope it will serve as a lasting legacy of our work in the area over the past two years. I have been very impressed with the strong partnership we have developed with both North Liverpool Academy and the local community – the results of which can clearly be seen in the extremely impressive college building and will now be continued with the provision of this new facility."

The Wates Family Enterprise Trust and its charitable programme Wates Giving aims to make a genuine and tangible difference to the local communities in which the construction company works. Over £3m has been committed into projects across the UK to-date.

Construction of North Liverpool Academy was completed in September 2009 ready for the new school term. The unique building has since attracted noticeable attention thanks to a 350-tonne handle-shaped structure which runs the length of the building.

Facilities include a sophisticated learning resource centre and sixth form common room which sit at the top of the building and enjoy panoramic views of Liverpool's skyline. The building also houses twelve science labs, engineering workshops, a theatre, recording studios and ICT-equipped teaching rooms.

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**For further information please contact Lisa Margis or Fiona Guy on 0161 236 0008 or [lisa@impactmediapr.com](mailto:lisa@impactmediapr.com)**

**Notes to Editors**

Wates is one of the UK's largest family-owned construction services and development companies. Established in 1897, it remains privately owned by the Wates Family. Wates employs some 2,000 people and had a turnover of £1,009 million in 2008.

The company works across a range of sectors, including education, prisons, affordable housing, retail fit out and refurbishment, office interiors, land development and commercial buildings.

Wates has three areas of Corporate Responsibility focus: to reduce the impact of CO2 emissions from its activities, eliminate all non-hazardous waste to landfill by 2010 and boost skills and employability in areas of most need. Wates was awarded Gold status in the 2008 Business in the Community Responsible Business index.

Safety is a top priority and the Group's excellent record has resulted in RoSPA Gold Awards for Occupational Safety and British Safety Council Awards for the past six years.