

# TOP OF ITS CLASS



DEVELOPER : The Department of Education  
CONSTRUCTION COMPANY : Cooper & Oxley  
PROJECT VALUE : \$36 million

The \$36M Byford Secondary College is an expansion of the existing high school and includes additional facilities including a new Year 8 and Year 9 block, a performing arts and sports centre, an extension to the Technology and Enterprise Building as well as a hydrotherapy pool.

**Award-winning West Australian builders, Cooper & Oxley have just finished constructing Stage 2 of the \$36 million Byford Secondary College project.**

Cooper & Oxley, which is more than 60 years old, now specialises in education, health and industrial construction and has a strong culture of offering cost-effective project delivery solutions. What keeps the company powering ahead are teamwork, strong leadership and consistent high standards.

“For more than 60 years, Cooper & Oxley have constructed a lot of different buildings throughout Perth and the regions. We have great experience in regional and metro areas including apartments, hospitals, retail, education, aged care, heritage and commercial projects,” said Phil Durston, the company’s Project Manager.

For the Byford project, Cooper & Oxley were contracted to construct six buildings. They included a Year 7 and 8 building, a hydrotherapy pool in another building, a sport centre, a large

under-cover area to join the new and existing buildings, a 2-storey performing arts building and extensions to the existing building. “The works would have at least doubled the capacity of the existing building,” said Phil.

The school was originally built for 443 students, but the expansion means it can accommodate up to 1,190. The project’s due to be completed at the end of this year culminating in a year of construction. The approach has led to minimal disruption to students, staff and the general school community with Cooper & Oxley tweaking its schedule to work in well with the school.

“One of the biggest challenges for us was having a base for our sheds, but the rest of our materials had to be stored at satellite sites around the school. We had secure fences around our materials, too, so did not have a problem with curious students or thefts.”

“We always had to be mindful of working in a school environment with its drop off and pick up times, so we had programmed our

deliveries and works around that,” Phil said. What helped was having our Senior Site Manager Adrian Hackett on this project, who had recently finished a similar school expansion project. He was “key to the Byford project,” said Phil.

“It’s important to have good lines of communication with the school. If the school had an issue, they would simply speak to our site staff who would action the issue immediately and resolve the problem. We resolved any issues swiftly so managed the project well and one building we even completed months ahead of schedule.”

Cooper & Oxley scooped the 2015 Best Regional Project award from the Master Builders Association for the Kununurra Courthouse. Finalists for this award must have won Best Commercial Building in one of the MBA regional awards in the past – the company had distinguished itself previously in the Kimberley-Pilbara region. In addition, the 2-storey \$41.8 million courthouse won the overall 2015 MBA Best Project Award.

Cooper & Oxley’s recent projects include 1309 Hay Street, West Perth. It’s a 14-storey boutique hotel within an existing 2-storey brick and iron Federation Queen Anne heritage building.



The company is transforming The Goods Shed in Claremont, Perth. Built in the early 1900s, it’s one of Perth’s oldest railway station buildings and will have a new life as a cultural and community hub.

Next, the company is partnering with Brookfield Multiplex on the new Karratha Health Campus. It is the largest hospital infrastructure investment undertaken in regional Western Australia.

**For more information contact Cooper & Oxley**, 9 Bishop Street, Jolimont WA 6014, phone 08 9387 9000, email [info@cooperoxley.com.au](mailto:info@cooperoxley.com.au), website [www.cooperoxley.com.au](http://www.cooperoxley.com.au)



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Below Mills & Hassall installed all of the steelwork fabrication for the frame and roofing of Byford Secondary College.



Mills & Hassall shop detailed, fabricated, treated, supplied and erected more than 500 tonnes of structural steel for Byford Secondary College project in Perth. We worked closely with builders Cooper & Oxley to complete the frame and roof for the project to a high standard on schedule and to budget.

Our scope was to provide structural and shop drawings, fabricate including surface treatment and then erect the structural steel. We were able to deal with the technical complexities of the project during the drawing stage. We were also able to solve all the problems during erection process by providing suitable alternatives whilst keeping the cost to a minimum for the client.

Mills & Hassall is a family owned business, operating for more than 60 years. The company offers design and construction services such as turnkey project to completion, submissions to governing authorities, engineering and architectural design, shop drawings, steelwork fabrication and steel and panel erection.

For more information contact Mills & Hassall, 67 Excellence Drive, Wangara WA 6065, phone 08 9302 4800, fax 08 9302 4733, email sales@millshassall.com.au, website www.millshassall.com.au