



Geo-Environmental

# Supporting Social Infrastructure

- Site Risk Assessment
- Environmental Consultancy
- Geotechnical Consultancy
- Remediation and Validation

Geo-Environmental Services is an International Geotechnical and Environmental Engineering Consultancy, part of the Geo-Environmental group of companies. Our consulting engineering team consists of Degree and Masters qualified consulting engineers, and include; Chartered Geologists, Chartered Environmentalists, Chartered Scientists.

Since 1996 we have been providing advice and services to the educational sector, working on over 300 separate commissions for clients that have included; Chigwell School Essex, Fareham Council, Grey Court Secondary in Richmond, Environment Agency, St Barts School in Newbury, Ministry of Defence, Blacklands Primary School, Brighton and Hove Council, Hurstpierpoint College and Winchester University.

Providing Eurocode 7 site compliant investigations for schools, educational establishments and Government at all levels, brings with it the unique challenge of performing investigations in very busy public areas.

Safety of the public, clients staff or students and our own staff is of paramount importance on these sites and we always ensure that our investigations are fully secure. The methods that we use to achieve safety are contained in our ISO9001, ISO14001 and ISO18001 quality management systems and are approved by CHAS and Construction Line.

We are aware of the financial constraints on all central government, local government and school projects and always aim to define an appropriate scope of work that is cost effective and minimises the risk of additional unbudgeted costs later in the development process.

To do this we use the experience and knowledge of our highly experienced engineers, along with an innovative use of the latest technologies, such as pXRF (portable x-ray fluorescence), to minimise future development and remediation costs.

[www.gesl.net](http://www.gesl.net)



# Harrow Schools | Case Study

## Services Supplied on this Project:

- Desk Study Assessment;
- Ground Investigation (Window Sampling and Hand Excavated Trial Pits);
- Geotechnical Assessment for Foundations and Earthworks;
- Ground and Groundwater Contamination Risk Assessment;
- Ground Gas Risk Assessment

## The Project

Geo-Environmental undertook ground investigations for eight schools in Harrow, for additional temporary and permanent classrooms in preparation for the new student intake. Due to time restraints all investigations were required to be undertaken within one week during school time in June.

The works were required to assess potential environmental issues and to support the design of foundations for two storey temporary and permanent classrooms, including additions to existing school buildings. Particular emphasis was given to the potential design of “screw piles” as the most environmentally sustainable form of foundation construction.

## Expertise

The experienced team that Geo-Environmental employed, with its broad knowledge of investigation techniques and environmental sustainability were able to advise the client and provide an innovative solution for the potential design of “screw piles”. Our geotechnical team has extensive experience and this is a crucial factor in ensuring that our clients meet their goals.

## Benefits

Of primary importance was the requirement for strict protocols in respect of Health and Safety for the workforce and in particular, the staff and students of the schools, as the works were undertaken during term time.

The client confirmed that they were very impressed with all aspects of Health and Safety protocols provided by and executed by Geo-Environmental, and in particular, our comprehensive site specific Method Statements and working Risk Assessments.

The reports for each investigation were submitted well before the actual deadlines allowing additional time to produce the most cost effective and environmentally sustainable foundation designs to be made.