

Industry Building firm constructs a day in the workplace for pupils



Scott Whithey, aged 14, with Eriq Hulmes from Broughton Brick Work



Paul Towler from CM Oxendale Ltd, with Ayesha Zubair and Georgia Smethurst, both aged 14, looking at underfloor heating pipes

MORE than 25 pupils at Derby High School gained a fascinating insight into the building industry thanks to a construction taster day.

The Year Nine pupils donned hard hats, protective suits, gloves and goggles to launch themselves into a number of building-related tasks at the site of the school's new £1.46 million sports hall in Radcliffe Road, Bury.

Contractors F Parkinson organised the hands-on taster day with the school and 26 youngsters took part in plastering, joinery, electrical and brick work, plumbing, painting and decorating.

Practical tasks such as wiring a socket, painting, plastering and building a wall, constructing locks, and laying underfloor heating piping were all

enthusiastically undertaken by the pupils, with the help of representatives of companies sub-contracted to build the hall.

Pupils were able to quiz the tradesmen about their occupation, their prospects, and what their jobs entail on a day-to-day basis.

Satinder Singh, assistant headteacher and head of business and enterprise, said "This is a brilliant way

to let pupils immerse themselves in what construction is really about. It also leaves them with the appreciation of the enormous amount of work that the trades put into constructing our new sports hall."

Pupils who excelled in some of the tasks rewarded with vouchers and prizes and Parkinson's described their behaviour as

"exemplary." A company spokesman said: "Parkinson's always looks to give something back to the communities in which we work."

"These events always help to engage pupils and teachers alike whilst highlighting the diverse and exciting careers that are available in the construction industry."