QTS



Abington Primary

Whilst conducting essential works along the WCML, QTS sought opportunities to enact social value efforts in adjacent communities.

The social value team met with Abington Primary School, who identified a large area of derelict land which could be transformed. This would provide the school with a safe, natural play area that could be accessed through the playground whilst offering QTS an opportunity for environmental improvement.

Over a two-week period, 10 members of our Civils, Geotechnical and support-based teams volunteered almost 300 hours to develop the space. The team started by removing detritus and litter and began groundworks to allow for the install of the play area and pathway. Once this was complete, they began planting 250 new trees, involving staff and pupils towards the end. Safety and accessibility improvements included the installation of a new gate, drainage system and fencing repairs.

To support the successful delivery of the works, QTS partnered with Thomas Plant Hire, GAP and Speedy, who supplied additional plant, materials and equipment free of charge. This collaboration not only reduced project costs but also enabled the team to reinvest more resources into the site, maximising the impact of the overall project.

The school marked the official opening with a ribbon cutting celebration, hosting a teddy bears' picnic and a thank you ceremony to acknowledge the team members who volunteered their time.

> *"We are grateful to the QTS team for their efforts in creating this incredible space for our children. They have transformed an unused area into something that will benefit the community for years to come. The children have loved being involved and particularly enjoyed the grand opening and Teddy Bears picnic. It was a lovely way to end the school year."*
>
> – Kay Macpherson
>
> Headteacher for Abington and Crawford Primary Schools

While de-vegetation activities are necessary to maintain the safety of the railway, QTS are committed to reinvesting in biodiversity and helping to create a lasting positive impact.

288
hours volunteered

250
trees planted

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