

Department for Education - School Build Meeting Update - Wednesday 19th April 2023

Attendees: Ben Parnell (CEO), Emma Kerr (Executive Principal), Carla Barnard (Chair of Governors), Darren Crockford (Estates Manager), Gary Chapman (Deputy Estates Manager), Richard Malyon (DFE Project Director), Chris Hedges (DFE Project Manager), LPS staff, parents and prospective parents.

Permanent Accommodation - Chris explained that last time they reported their plans to demolish the existing build and funding for the new build has been approved. Surveys were undertaken and they found many discrepancies within the building which did not meet the DfE's quality standards. They looked at different options, however, following extensive analysis it was decided that the safest solution is to rebuild the school. This means it will have the structure and fire integrity and complies with the DfE standard and will have the usual guarantees and warranties.

Demolition of the building has now started with an internal soft strip. All reusable items have been taken to storage and will either be reused in the building or will be donated and used by the Trust. There will be minimal wastage. The next stage is to start taking the building down, machinery for this will be coming from Newquay and arriving at the end of this week. At the beginning of this week, the pre-demolition started, making sure it is safe to start dismantling the building. It will then take 4-5 weeks to take down. Timber, brick and plaster will all get recycled - very little will go to landfill (less than 5%). After this, they will be doing further exploratory work on the existing foundations to make sure it is safe to build from. They currently think the foundations are fine to use, however will be double checking. Once this has happened the new building can start. Kier is currently engaged under a pre-contract agreement which will be formalised into a full contract once all commercial matters are finalised, this is anticipated to be during May.

Chris explained that they have investigated a drainage problem around the school site, which has been leaving some standing water. They have found out part of a drain in the school field will need to be replaced. However, Chris also explained that the Taylor Wimpey site is still building houses on the estate. The roads around the school will not be adopted until the new houses have been built. Currently the drains are raised higher than the road, meaning water cannot flow down the drains and gullies, leaving standing water.

Chris confirmed that everything is going to plan and we are on target to complete in June/July next year. The closer we get to this target, the more accurate the date can be confirmed.

Temporary Accommodation - In the last meeting DfE shared plans of the conversion of the boat shed at the temporary site. He explained that the plans remain the same, however now includes finer details. The competitive tender is reaching conclusion and they are expecting to appoint a contractor to complete the work shortly. The Tender exercise is taking slightly longer than usual, owing to difficult market conditions, but is now at the end of the procurement process, with a contractor in mind. This supplier is confidential at this stage of completing the works on schedule. The aim is to get the contractor appointed by the middle of May, with the intention to start work during the May half term, to minimise disruption of

learning with the initial noisy element of the works. The contractor will take control of the boat shed and place a compound just outside, which will be separate from the school. After speaking to contractors, they estimate the works to be completed within 8-10 weeks. They are confident that work will be completed by the middle of August.

Reusable materials from the permanent build, such as internal doors, light fittings, plasterboard etc. will be used within the temporary accommodation.

The school is currently exploring which classrooms will be used for each year group. They still need to be confirmed; however the new Reception pupils will be in the existing Reception space. The current Year 1s to possibly stay in their current classroom. The current Reception pupils could potentially move to the new conversion of the boat shed.

The next meeting will be scheduled at the end of June/middle of July for a further update. The parent/carer survey will be shared again prior to this meeting, to ask any questions to the DFE.

Questions & Feedback received via Parent/Carer Survey (Live from 17/01/23 to 19/04/23) addressed in points above.
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As discussed at the previous meeting, Please can we now know what needs to be done to get this school to be ready for the children?

Do you plan to add extra resources to try and speed up the build? - DFE can use extra resources, but not needed at the moment

When is the work going to commence, I know in September you said it would be April, however has this changed or is there an opportunity to bring it forward now you know what needs to be done?

Updates on development and time frame

What is the contingency plan if there are further delays to the build and what capacity do you have at the temporary site?
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Still on track for a June/July 2024 completion?

Is there a contractor agreed for the temporary site? (At our last meeting we were told this would be agreed by March). When will these works start?

Is the process still on schedule, and have there been any changes since the last meeting?
