

New Portobello High School Update

September 2014



Construction start

The Council signed a contract with Balfour Beatty Construction in early August for them to build and deliver the new Portobello High School on Portobello Park.

Since then the preparations have gone very well and we are delighted to be able to say that you can expect work on site to get underway soon.

Planned activities to the end of 2014

- Perimeter fence and access point set-up (late September)
- Site office set up (October)
- Earthworks to the whole site (October)
- Drainage for the new building (starts October)
- Sub structure for the new building (October onwards)
- Steel structure erection (begins December)

Community drop in session

Balfour Beatty Construction is holding a Community drop in session on **25 September 2014** and will have more information about the construction works and their community engagement plan.

The event is mainly aimed at residents and businesses around the site but anyone interested can pop into the **High School Library** anytime between **4.00pm and 7.30pm** to find out more.

Community benefits

Balfour Beatty Construction has a community liaison person for the project. An important part of their remit will be to 'link' with cluster schools so that everyone can make the most of the building project as part of pupils' education and learning.

This may be through school assemblies, design workshops, class projects or even site visits. It is also planned that schools can keep in touch with project progress via an on-site web cam.

High school students will be able to apply for work experience with a number of companies working on the project. Opportunities will also come up for school leavers to apply for apprenticeships or other employment. These will be highlighted through the school.

Keeping neighbours informed

Balfour Beatty Construction is a member of the Considerate Contractors Scheme and is committed to delivering the work in a safe and thoughtful manner.

Newsletters will keep neighbours updated on planned works, progress, site works and issues that may arise. Every effort will be made to minimise noise and disruption as far as possible.

Working hours

Core working hours on the site will be between 07.30 to 18.00hrs (Monday to Friday) and 07.30 to 15.30hrs (Saturday).

Stay Safe

The construction site will have a security presence outwith the working hours above. However, despite secure hoardings and other measures, some young people may think that the building site looks like an adventure playground.

Children and young people need to know that construction vehicles, equipment, scaffolding, excavations, pipes and piles of building materials may look fun but they all present a danger to the unwary trespasser.

Work will be done in schools to talk to children about site safety but we would also ask parents to talk to their children about the potential dangers. Please be very clear with them that under no circumstances should they ever try to enter the site.

We would also ask members of the public around the site to help too. Please contact the site team if you see any unauthorised attempts to access the site.

Site Contact

The contractor operates an 'open door policy' so if you have any concerns about the site works then please feel free to contact the site team. This can be done either by

- calling 01501 824800, or
- e-mailing newportobellohighschool@balfourbeatty.com