

Callerton Academy Permanent Site

Newsletter: March 2023

Welcome to our spring term information update about the building programme for our new school.

In our December newsletter we told you about the new competitive procurement exercise that was starting in the new year. We are very happy to be able to tell you that this process is nearing its successful completion. The DfE team have been completing the tender and evaluation stage and will be able to announce the contractor after the Easter break.

The successful contractor, the DfE team and the Trust will be working together to develop and finalise the building design and layout. During this time, we'll have a period of consultation where the thoughts of the community will be captured ahead of any revisions to the planning submission.

We are still very much on track for the construction work to commence in the Autumn of 2023, and it is anticipated that the school will be completed during the summer term 2025 ready for the start of the new school year in September 2025.

In the meantime the DfE have completed the procurement process for a contractor to remodel the areas required to expand the teaching and learning areas within our Grainger Town facilities. This will ensure we can continue to deliver really high quality teaching and learning across the full curriculum. It includes remodelling the hall and dining room area and opening up the top floor to provide a third science laboratory, food science room, ICT suite and a second large multi-use space for teaching PE and drama.

This remodelling work will take place during the summer holidays and will be completed for the start of the new term in September 2023.

Although the provision of coach places for Y7 pupils and offering free travel passes for all students who do not get the coach will continue over the next two years, we know there are some concerns about transport while we remain in our temporary school. We have been meeting with Nexus and Newcastle City Council to look at how to address these concerns, which has involved collating information from current students on how they travel to school, as well as ensuring that we consider all options and parental preferences. A range of other data and information is being used to help with this process, including the mapping out of bus routes across the areas where our pupils live.

We have further meetings planned with Newcastle City Council and Nexus over the next few weeks to discuss capacity on the public network and scholar bus routes and **we will be holding a parent information evening at Gosforth Academy at 5.30pm on May 16th to provide further updates.** It would be great to see as many of you there as possible as it is also a brilliant opportunity for us to let you know more about progress with the design and planning of the new school.

We are looking forward to sharing more news about the project with you after the Easter holidays and appreciate your interest and support.

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