

Great Park Academy Permanent Site

Newsletter: March 2023

Welcome to our spring term information update about the building programme for our new school on Newcastle Great Park.

We are very pleased to report that everything is on track with the timeline, key milestones and next steps that we shared with you in February.

The Department for Education received tenders from two contractors for the delivery of the new school. These have been evaluated and a contractor has been selected. Work to complete the pre-construction services agreement with the contractor is well underway. In the meantime we are very excited to be working closely with the DfE and the contractor to develop the school design. We're also looking forward to talking to our pupils in the first week back after the Easter holidays and gathering some of their ideas about their new school building. Once the pre-construction services agreement is signed we'll be able to announce who the contractor is and they will carry out some detailed surveys and prepare the reserved matters planning application.

The plans for expanding provision on our temporary site for September 2023 and 2024 are also well underway. A contractor has been selected and is working with the DfE and Gosforth Group to progress designs, undertake further surveys and complete transport assessments ready to submit a planning application in April 2023.

As you know from our latest newsflash about transport from Newcastle Great Park to our temporary school site, some helpful changes to the Q3 timetable and capacity at peak times have been made. We have meetings planned with Newcastle City Council and Nexus over the next few weeks to look in more detail at capacity on the public network and scholar bus routes.

The DfE has been keeping both Nick Gibb, Minister for Schools, and MP Catherine McKinnell updated about progress with the permanent and temporary building projects and the work that is being done around transport. They have scheduled a further meeting in May.

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

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