

Kensington Academy and Leisure Centre

NEWSLETTER
Summer/Autumn 2013

► Watch the construction works live



Work is well underway on the new academy and leisure centre and a real-time camera has been installed so you can watch the progress.

Construction of the leisure centre will run in parallel with the academy so that both new buildings can open in 2014.

To access the camera and to read about the latest developments visit
www.rbkc.gov.uk/kalc



THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF
KENSINGTON
AND CHELSEA

► Come along to November's drop-in session

On Tuesday 26 November from 5pm to 7pm a drop-in session will be held at Notting Hill Methodist Church, 240 Lancaster Road, W11 4AH.

This will be an opportunity to find out how construction is progressing and the Council, Aldridge Foundation and other members of the project team will be on hand to answer any questions you may have about the scheme.



One of last year's drop-in sessions

Contacting Bouygues Group Leadbitter

Contact details

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Kensington Aldridge Academy

Rob Lynch, Project Manager,
Kensington Leisure Centre

Mark Gjeczaj,
Logistics Manager, both projects

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Community Engagement Coordinator

T: 0844 573 6453 (Freephone)

Regular community drop-in sessions

Bouygues Group Leadbitter has moved its offices from Baseline Studios and established itself on site. Community drop-in sessions will be held on the last Wednesday of every month from 12pm to 1.30pm – please see the directions on the hoardings.

► Construction update

Kensington Leisure Centre

Redevelopment projects of this nature nearly always involve the routine removal of asbestos and some was found in the depot behind the old Kensington Leisure Centre during the demolition works. It was tested and safely removed by specialist contractors.

Demolition is complete and the new leisure centre's foundations have been laid. The sewer has been successfully rerouted and hoardings erected around the entire leisure centre site.

Excavation of the basement level has begun and the foundations of the pool structures have been laid. This month the steelwork will be put in place and from the early autumn the external structure will begin to rise from the ground.



Kensington Aldridge Academy

The academy's foundations have now been dug and construction of the basement is almost complete. Tower cranes have arrived to lift the steel cages and concrete pillars into position and these will form the framework for the external structure.

From the autumn the fabric of the building will really begin to take shape and the individual floors should be completed by early next year. Work will then begin on the interior of the building.



► Employment and training opportunities

The project for the academy and the leisure centre will create employment and training opportunities in a variety of trades. Bouygues Group Leadbitter has developed employment and training plans for both projects including ambitions to provide 11 apprenticeships, 29 work experience opportunities and for vacancies to be advertised locally.

The forecasted opportunities are in trades ranging from carpentry, partitioning and flooring, through to project management. Bouygues Group Leadbitter will be working with local agencies such as Clement James and the Harrow Club to help meet these targets. If you are interested in pursuing an apprenticeship in construction, please contact Jonathan Brookes of Evolve at Jon.brookes@evolveuk.org



► KALC Public Art Group

The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea has committed funds levied from commercial developments in the borough, so that local residents and users of the academy and leisure centre can benefit.

With encouragement from the Council, a group of residents has formed a Public Art Steering Group. It is devising a strategy for the project, including ways of involving the wider community in consultation on what work or works of art could be placed in the development.

We will be updating residents on the panel's progress through future editions of this newsletter.



Artist's impression of the north-east view of the academy's main entrance

► Kensington Aldridge Academy news

As well as gifting the academy the site, the Council has contributed £10.4m from its reserves towards the construction costs. In addition, it has also given a further £350,000 so that the new principal could be appointed, other staff advertised for and to help with the other costs associated with getting the academy up and running.

Academy principal on board



It's not just the building that's taking shape, David Benson, has been appointed as the Kensington Aldridge Academy's first Principal.

Mr Benson, was Vice Principal in charge of Teaching and Learning, Assessment and Curriculum at Ark Academy in Brent.

Sir Rod Aldridge, Chairman of sponsors the Aldridge Foundation, said:

"David has lived and worked locally in west London for many years. He joined his previous school nine months before opening and as a founding Vice Principal played a central role in its creation. He therefore brings a depth of knowledge about the area and the opportunities that come with starting a new academy to his role in Kensington."

"The Kensington Aldridge Academy will be an exceptional school and that requires an exceptional Principal as leader. In David, I am confident we have found just that."

David Benson said: "Our aim is to create a school which has the very highest standards – both in terms of academic teaching and life beyond the classroom. We will develop our students into confident, articulate young people whose education fully equips them for university or the career of their choice. I am excited to work with the community and our partners to build a truly excellent new school here in Kensington and Chelsea."

Joining the academy

The academy will be a local school serving the North Kensington community. There will be no selection by religion, gender or ability and places will be allocated purely according to distance from the academy.

The new school opens in September 2014 with a year seven intake only. First entry into the sixth form will be from September 2016. Full details of the Royal Borough's admissions policy can be seen at www.rbkc.gov.uk/schooladmissions



Come along to an open evening

The academy has open evenings on Wednesday 18 and Wednesday 25 September 2013 at Avondale Park Primary School, Sirdar Road, W11 4EE and parents can drop-in at any time between 4pm to 8pm on both evenings. Please email kaaenquiries@aldridgefoundation.com to indicate which date and time you would like to attend.

You can find out more about the academy by visiting www.kensingtonaldridgeacademy.co.uk

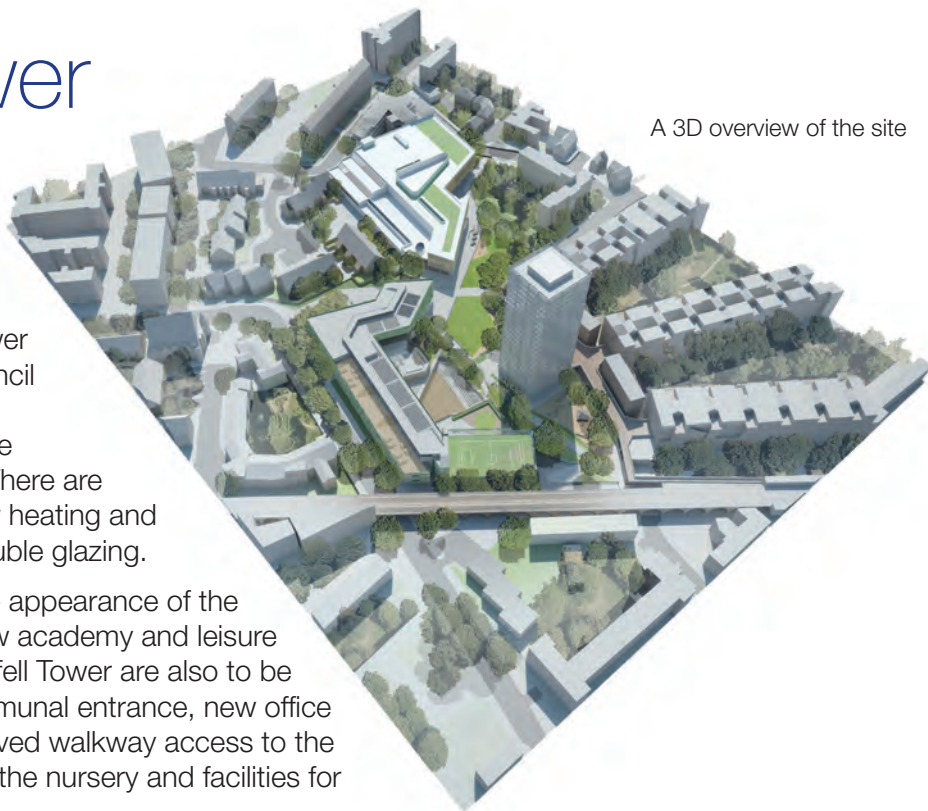
► Grenfell Tower

The Royal Borough is committed to improving Grenfell Tower on the Lancaster West Estate and £9m has been earmarked for the scheme.

There is no delay to the works on the Tower but it is a complex project which the Council and the Kensington and Chelsea Tenant Management Organisation (TMO) (who are overseeing the works) want to get right. There are many facets to the scheme including new heating and hot water systems, new cladding and double glazing.

The cladding will dramatically improve the appearance of the Tower in a way that complements the new academy and leisure centre buildings. The lower levels of Grenfell Tower are also to be remodelled to allow for an improved communal entrance, new office facilities, new family-sized flats and improved walkway access to the Tower. The project also includes work on the nursery and facilities for the boxing club based in the Tower.

We are committed to these works and will report on these latest developments in future newsletters.



A 3D overview of the site

► News from nearby

This newsletter outlines the latest developments on the academy and leisure centre site but a number of other Council-led developments are taking place nearby. This round-up attempts to give you a flavour of the many other positive projects currently underway in North Kensington.

Silchester Estate

Work has now begun on 112 new homes on the Silchester Estate, comprising 39 larger properties for social rent, 45 smaller properties for shared ownership and a further 28 smaller homes for sale on the open market to help pay for the work.

The homes are being built as a result of a partnership between the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, who provided the land and £3 million, and Peabody which is also investing in the scheme and project managing the building programme.

The work is expected to be complete in March 2015, but the first new tenants will begin moving in May 2014.

Middle Row

A brand new Middle Row Primary School is rapidly taking shape. The old school was out of date, inflexible and in need of major repair. Not only will the new one be smart and attractive it will offer all the facilities we would want for our children. To help fund the building we are also creating new apartments and commercial space alongside.

Middle Row Primary School's main entrance



East Row

A superb new children's home is under construction at East Row. Located on the corner of Emslie Horniman Pleasance, the three-storey home will provide places for up to nine children. As well as high quality living quarters, it will have great communal and recreational facilities including a garden. And it will also be super energy efficient with green roofs, solar panels and heat recovery units. There will be 24-hour onsite care.

Piper House

A £1.65 million refurbishment of Piper House, which provides specialist accommodation for residents with learning difficulties and complex physical and/or behavioural needs, has recently been completed.

The home, on St. Mark's Road, has been converted into 12 flats with ten specifically designed for wheelchair users. Its conversion means that more residents can remain in the borough, close to their friends and family.

Avondale Park

Also soon to be completed is a brand new pavilion for Avondale Park. The building will house changing rooms, toilets, a snack kiosk and a sheltered picnic area. Its design is intended to reflect the historic kilns and potteries of Avondale and Notting Hill.



Artist's impression of the new Avondale Park pavilion

► Alternative sports and leisure facilities

Other GLL facilities

Chelsea Sports Centre will remain open throughout the works.

Chelsea Sports Centre

Chelsea Manor Street,
SW3 5PL

Tel: 020 7352 6985

Underground: South Kensington, Sloane Square

Bus: 319, 49, 211, 11, 22

GLL operate across London and three of its centres which are approximately one mile away from the old Kensington Leisure Centre include:

Jubilee Sports Centre

Caird Street,
W10 4RR

Tel: 020 8960 9629

Underground: Queens Park, Westbourne Park
Kensal Green

National Rail: Kensal Green

Bus: 6, 18, 28, 31, 316, 328

Phoenix Fitness Centre & Janet Adegoke Swimming Pool

Bloemfontein Road
W12 7DB

Tel: 020 8735 4900

Underground: White City, Wood Lane

Bus: 283, 95, 7, 70, 72, 272, 228

Porchester Centre

Queensway
W2 5HS

Tel: 020 7792 2919

Underground: Royal Oak, Bayswater

Bus: 36, 27, 7, 23

Facilities managed by the Westway Development Trust

Facilities managed locally by the Westway Development Trust include:

Westway Sports Centre

1 Crowthorne Road,
W10 6RP

Tel: 020 8969 0992

Underground: Latimer Road

Bus: 295, 316, 72, 95, 220, 272

Portobello Green Fitness Club

3-5 Thorpe Close,
W10 5XL

Tel: 020 8960 2221

Underground: Ladbroke Grove

Bus: 52, 228, 7, 23, 70, 452, 295



► Thank you

During construction we realise that there has been unavoidable disruption and inconvenience for those living close to the site and we would like to thank you for your continued patience.



Artist's impression of the southern approach to the leisure centre.

► Contacts

You can continue to email us with your support, questions and concerns at **kalcenquiries@rbkc.gov.uk**

To find out more about the project visit **www.rbkc.gov.uk/kalc** and **www.kensingtonaldridgeacademy.co.uk**

To receive latest e-updates or information on residents' forums, drop-in sessions and other events email **kalcenquiries@rbkc.gov.uk**

Information from this newsletter can be made available in different languages.
For more details please contact **020 7361 3008**.