

Hope Academy

Newton-le-Willows

Transforming education for our young people

The joint Catholic and Church of England Academy to replace Newton Community High School & St Aelred's Catholic Technology College.

Building Hope

Construction commences on the new Academy in Newton-le-Willows

It has taken years of careful planning and development, but the creation of the £31M Hope Academy came a giant step closer last month as building work began on site.

Over the next two years, contractors Willmott Dixon will transform the existing Newton Community High School site into the state-of-the-art new learning facility, which will also replace St. Aelred's Catholic Technology College.

"Hope Academy is already taking shape and shaping its environment, making Newton-le-Willows a sustainable community into the future" says Bishop James Jones.

Included in those plans are numerous environmentally-friendly features, such as wind turbines, photovoltaics, solar panels and a biomass boiler - following the sponsor's requests that the new Academy should have sustainability at its heart.



Hope Academy site on Newton High School

The Academy is being constructed on land currently occupied by playing fields, allowing the existing school to remain fully operational.

"The new Academy will be completed and ready to welcome pupils in September 2011", explains Willmott Dixon's Project Manager Alistair Brymer "The current Newton Community High School will remain open until the close of the school year in July 2011 and we'll be working

hard with the teachers and pupils to ensure that school life continues unhindered and that disruption is minimised during that time."

Father Michael O'Dowd believes the Academy, which is sponsored by the Catholic Archdiocese of Liverpool, the

Church of England Diocese of Liverpool and Liverpool Hope University, will provide "a unique and inspiring learning environment for pupils from across Newton, and represents the most exciting development in the area for many, many years."

Hope Academy, Newton-le-Willows is sponsored by:



Our new learning environment

The sponsors continue to work very closely with St Helens Council and Willmott Dixon Construction in finalising the design for the new Academy building which they intend to become the most sustainable school in the country.

The 14,744m² Academy will have 100% of its off-peak electricity and 100% of heating and hot water generated by renewable sources on site, whilst 20% of the building and 70% of the external landscaping will be made from recycled materials.

At the recent "Excellence in Building Schools for the Future Awards" the Academy won the award for Innovation in Sustainability



St. Helens
Council



WILLMOTT DIXON
CONSTRUCTION



The new Academy building will reflect the family feel of the Academy and offer its students a wider curriculum and more learning opportunities.

The building will be;

- full of light and colour;
- spacious and open;
- demonstrably sustainable and efficient;
- aesthetically pleasing and a home for works of art
- calm and de-stressing;
- a place where God is recognised through its atmosphere, chapel and symbols;
- a place where peace is found



The project timeline - September 2009 - 2011

SEPTEMBER 2009
Construction of Academy building starts.

JANUARY 2010
Academy Principal takes up post (part time basis).

AUGUST 2010
Principal takes up full-time post.

OCTOBER 2010
Finalise school uniform design.

MAY 2011
Academy Building completed.

SEPTEMBER 20 11
The Academy doors are open!

SEP 09

NOV 09

JAN 10

MAR 10

MAY 10

JUL 10

SEP 10

NOV 10

JAN 11

MAR 11

MAY 11

JUL 11

SEP 11

DECEMBER 2009
Student workshops to design logo begins.

FEBRUARY 2010
Approval of new visual identity and logo.

JULY 2010
2011 entry prospectus printed for applications.

JANUARY 2011
2011 entry admissions process complete.

MARCH 2011
Academy registered with the exam boards.

JULY 2011
OfSTED pre-opening inspection.

Academy Website - www.hopeacademy.org.uk

The Sponsors have appointed Brand and Design Consultants, PalfreyGreer, from St Helens to start work on the new visual identity for the Academy. One of their initial tasks was to develop an interim Academy website to contain information about the status of the project and also act as a facility for people to ask questions.

The website is now live and can be found at www.hopeacademy.org.uk

PalfreyGreer will also develop a logo and visual style for the Academy and will be working with pupils from both Newton and St Aelred's and local primary schools to gather some ideas together.

A number of workshops will be run alongside interactive online exercises, where the pupils will gain an insight into the creative world of contemporary design, as well as involving themselves in the design

of the visual identity of the new Academy.

Once the logo and visual style has been designed, the work will then concentrate on designing the new uniform for the Academy, as well as refreshing the website to have the new branding.

Coming Soon!
View flythroughs and artist impressions of the new building at hopeacademy.org

Working Together

Liverpool Hope University's sponsorship of the Hope Academy is already bearing fruit. Just before the summer holidays over 50 pupils from Newton and St Aelred's attended their own Higher Education Summer School at the University.

The aim of the residential experience, funded by St Helens Local Authority, was to start on the long journey of the schools working together so that when the Academy Opens in September 2011 the pupils and staff will know each other.

The Summer School was attended by learners and teachers and staff from the University and also aimed to raise awareness of university life and achievement levels in academic subjects. An indication of the importance of the event was that

learners and teachers were prepared to work together over a weekend to ensure the success of the Summer School.

Another exciting venture has been the involvement of Des Wilson (St Aelred's) and Elaine Crossan (Newton High) with Liverpool Hope's International Education Charity, Global Hope. Global Hope collaborates with SOS Children's Villages, UK, a Cambridge-based charity, to support education in locations around the world.

Des and Elaine teamed up with Hope University staff, Drs Lorna Bourke and Simon Davies, from the Psychology Department and students Matthew Pickering (BSc Human Biology and Psychology), David Mongsten (BSc Human Biology and Nutrition), Corrine Batty (BA QTS with Disability Studies)

and Jennifer Hunt (BA Education Studies and Disability Studies). Together, staff and students travelled to Bhimtal in the foothills of the Himalayas in Northern India to deliver workshops to qualified and aspiring teachers from SOS locations throughout India. Des and Elaine delivered in-service training to the teachers on realising an integrated Humanities curriculum and SEAL, a new Government initiative to encourage a social and emotional

approach to learning. The whole team had their eyes opened to the educational situation in this part of the world and were able to compare and contrast with their own experience in the UK. Far from being a one-way transfer of knowledge, these workshops emphasised similarities, different approaches to the same issues and an acknowledgement that achievement doesn't always rely on having the latest hi-tech gadgets!



Principal Appointment – more information to follow in the next newsletter early in the New Year.

If you have a comment or question, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

Email: Cathryn.nunnery@2020liverpool.co.uk

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Hope Academy, Newton-le-Willows is sponsored by:

