



EdCity Development Ltd



COMMUNITY UPDATE

FEBRUARY 2024

WELCOME

Welcome to the February EdCity update! We are excited to share the progress made since our last edition. Read on to discover the latest developments in construction and community initiatives.



RIBBON-CUTTING AT THE NEW SCHOOL BUILDING



THE LIBRARY AT ARK WHITE CITY PRIMARY ACADEMY

NEW BUILDING UNVEILED FOR ARK WHITE CITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

In November, Ark White City Primary Academy proudly opened its new school building and welcomed guests, including Councillor Stephen Cowan, Mayor Patricia Quigley, Andy Slaughter MP, Ark CEO Lucy Heller, Bowmer + Kirkland, OnSide, and school governors.

The event was a huge success, with the guests enjoying a tour of the school and its impressive facilities. Pupils delivered a reading and sang before speeches and the ribbon cutting. Executive Principal Daniel Upfield said, "There is a sense of joy that we have finally reached this stage. I joined Ark Swift in 2018, and there was talk about EdCity. I remember being in design meetings, thinking about how this new school would transform the community and the city's educational landscape. We had a unique opportunity to merge two communities at Ark Burlington Danes and Ark Swift, and the

children have done a remarkable job coming together, as have our staff, who have been fantastic and so unbelievably flexible. We are very excited about our school's future and opportunities, so I want to thank everyone who has worked tirelessly to make this project a reality."

The completion of the school marks a significant milestone for the EdCity development, with the next phase being the opening of WEST Youth Zone, which will offer after-school, weekend and evening activities for the community and Ark White City Primary pupils.

1EdCity, the nine-story office building, will become an innovation hub for those committed to transforming education, bringing Ark and other like-minded organisations and tenants together in 2024.



HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM BIDS FOR LONDON BOROUGH OF CULTURE 2025

In collaboration with local arts and community organisations, Hammersmith & Fulham hopes to claim the title of London's 'Borough of Culture' in 2025. This would involve gearing up for a year-long celebration to spotlight the unique culture and community of the area.

H&F benefits from a rich tapestry of historical and cultural heritage that brings people in the borough together and connects them.

By working with the local community to become London's Borough of Culture, H&F aims to strengthen those cultural ties and expand their reach to the rest of London and the world beyond.

Should the bid prove successful, the council has a huge lineup of activities planned for 2025, promising an extravaganza reflecting the borough's vibrancy and diversity. You can find out more at: www.wherethecultureconnects.org.uk





OPPORTUNITIES GALORE AT WEST

As construction concludes on the Youth Zone, WEST continues its huge recruitment drive. Several youth work and non-youth work roles will be advertised over the coming weeks, with full and part-time employment opportunities.

The Youth Zone will be an amazing place for young people with a climbing wall, sports hall, multimedia suite, music room with built-in recording studio, rooftop 3G pitch, boxing gym and fitness suite, health and wellbeing room, performing arts suite and much more.

It will be packed with youth workers in all these positions, and WEST is keen to recruit local people who understand young people's needs.

As well as job opportunities, the charity is bringing together an army of volunteers who want to lend their expertise and guidance to support young people.

CEO Elanor Gunn said, "We have already recruited some amazing people, but we have many more spaces in our team.

"WEST will open when schools close, so, as well as some more full-time positions, we will soon be advertising for several part-time posts to support our evening and weekend sessions.

"Youth work experience isn't vital as training will be given. What is essential, though, is that desire and passion to support young people. We will also have many non-youth work positions, too."

WEST is already working with local young people who have branded the Youth Zone and been involved in interviewing potential staff members. More recently, they have been busy coming up with ideas for the interior of the Youth Zones – creating designs for walls in every room.

For more recruitment information, visit www.westyouthzone.org and to register your interest in volunteering, email Shineade at volunteer@westyouthzone.org



THE WEST TEAM

LOCAL LETTINGS PLAN

As we draw closer to the completion of the development, the Allocations and Lettings Team at Hammersmith & Fulham want to remind residents that the Council intends to roll out a local lettings plan for the newly built affordable properties.

The aim of the local lettings plan is to support the local community by giving priority to qualifying residents on the White City estate, before extending to the W12 postal area followed by the rest of the borough when allocating the new affordable homes.

To qualify, you must be registered on the Council's housing register.

Shortlisting for the new homes will start approximately four weeks before the homes are ready to let.

Further details on whether you qualify to join the council's housing register, or to make an application to join the register, can be found at lbhf.gov.uk/housing/housing-register



PHASE 2 OF CONSTRUCTION BEGINS

EdCity is becoming a hub of possibilities for the community, with Phase 1 nearing completion and Phase 2 underway. The Youth Zone has been handed over and is set to offer many activities.

As for the office block, this is due for completion by B+K in March, with the internal fit-out due to complete in the summer. The perimeter paving – which is being handled by H&F and their contractor Conway – is also underway.

Bowmer + Kirkland has installed their branding to the hoarding and have demolishing the existing Ark Swift structure, removing the ground floor slab and foundations, and crushing and recycling the resulting material to create the piling mat. Bowmer + Kirkland is now gearing up to begin the foundation works for the 108 apartments, the new Harmony Nursery, and the Adult Education Centre.



HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM HOSTS NURTURING TALENT WORKSHOP

As part of H&F's Economy Development and Educational initiatives, the council has started a series of events to secure collaboration between local businesses and education providers, which will lead to increasing the aspirations and opportunities for students regardless of background and ability and also supporting and enhancing the curriculum.



In November, H&F brought 18 industries and 18 schools (representing 11,700 students) who signed up for the pilot project. The result of the day was a series of projects directed at students of all ages, allowing them to access information and insight into the industries, what they operate, and how to obtain work experience or jobs.

Over the next six months, more opportunities will be offered through tours, assemblies, after-school clubs, careers fairs, and other initiatives. The event was a great example of willingness between the two groups, and the conversations and ideas suggested will support students. H&F is excited to see the next steps in the project unfolds over the coming months.

H&F would like to thank everyone who contributed to the event. If you would like to hear more about the project or participate in it, please contact henrik.winther-olsen@lbhf.gov.uk

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

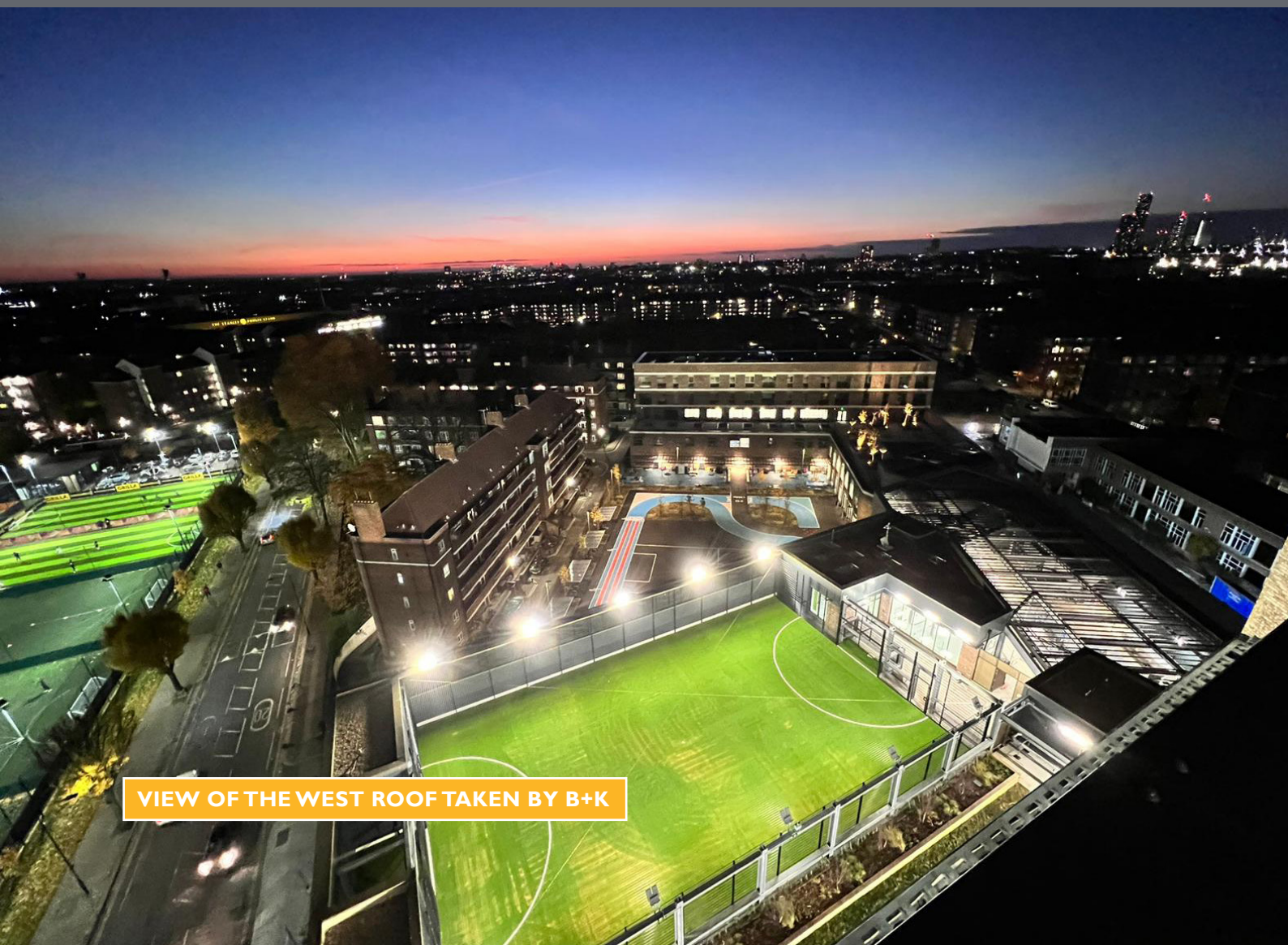
B+K is committed to supporting apprenticeships, community initiatives, and sustainability, and below are some highlights of their work in the community over the past few months.

The company has been actively working with schools to support young people in the community. Over the past year, 20 aspiring individuals have benefited from 489 apprenticeship weeks with B+K. One of the apprentices, H&F local Conall, is making significant progress in his engineering apprenticeship, and we can't wait to share his story with you in the future. B+K has also provided work experience to eight students in the past six months, three of whom are from the borough. B+K also supported Ark's apprenticeship mock assessment centre day, engaging with more than 100 students. Furthermore, B+K has sponsored Ark White City Primary's football team with £1500, which is fantastic!

In addition to working with schools, B+K has been actively supporting the community. They attended the W12 Together Community Festival and brought foam bricks for kids to play with. They were thrilled to see some pupils from Ark Swift Primary who recognised them! They have also recycled a large fridge from the existing Ark Swift site and donated it to West London Welcome, a refugee centre where they have previously done work.



FOAM BRICKS AT W12 TOGETHER



VIEW OF THE WEST ROOF TAKEN BY B+K



TRANSFORMATION TIMELINE

2021

Initial works started in July, with demolition works throughout the summer and autumn.

2022

Ongoing construction of phase one: the new primary school, residential, Youth Zone and office building.

2023

Ark White City Primary opened in the autumn, with pupils moving from the existing buildings into their brand-new classrooms.

Phase two begins!

2024

Completion of 24 affordable homes.

The office completes, along with the Youth Zone which will open to young people early in the year.

Construction of phase two: consisting of the new Harmony nursery, adult education centre and retail unit, along with 108 affordable homes.

2025

EdCity is complete.

ABOUT EDCITY

EdCity is a £150m not-for-profit investment that will create 132 affordable homes, a new primary school building, a nursery, adult learning spaces, a new Youth Zone, and an office building. The development will also include a new public space, with pedestrian routes linking White City estate to White City Place and Wood Lane.

EdCity Development Ltd (ECDL), Hammersmith & Fulham Council and Ark, an education charity, are delivering the project, with Bowmer + Kirkland Ltd carrying out construction work. Together, we are creating a place that will make a difference to the whole White City community.

FIND OUT MORE

For more information about the development, please visit www.edcity.org.uk where you can find an FAQs section, or you can get in touch with us at edcity@arkonline.org

CONSTRUCTION QUERIES

Contact Wayne Catterall on
07880 472480.