



EdCity Development Ltd



# COMMUNITY UPDATE

## WELCOME

Welcome to our July EdCity update. Since our last newsletter work has progressed at pace! Read on for the latest news on construction and community initiatives.

JULY 2023



## MILESTONE MOMENT FOR 'NUMBER ONE'

On 24 May, we marked the progress on the office building that will soon be transformed into Number One EdCity, the future home of education charity, Ark. To commemorate the completion of the structural elements of the building, EdCity partners and stakeholders gathered on the rooftop to drill the final board into place.

The nine-storey building will serve as Ark's central office and a hub from which they will continue to support their 30,000 students across Ark's 39 schools. Number One will also be home to a new charity incubator that will spin-out of Ark later this year, creating innovative non-for-profit start-ups. They will move into the building in 2024 with other like-minded organisations and tenants who want to support the mission occupying the remaining floors.

Lucy Heller, CEO of Ark, commented, "EdCity came into being thanks to the support and ambition of many partners – particularly Hammersmith and Fulham – who embraced the chance to create something bigger and better for the whole community. Their vision has ensured that EdCity will become not just the home to Ark and our latest school, Ark White City, but a Youth Zone, nursery, adult education centre and a literal home to over 130 families."

The event marked just one of what will be many significant milestones in the development of the wider EdCity site. Ark White City primary school and WEST Youth Zone will be handed over in the autumn, and the completed Number One offices will be unveiled in 2024.



**B&K AT WESTMINSTER CAREERS FAIR**

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

B+K has hosted numerous site tours and practical demonstrations for schools, colleges and universities. The site team, along with multiple subcontractors, have also volunteered a total of 60 hours at local school engagements, including career fairs, careers in construction talks and interactive sessions. They also held their first apprenticeship open evening on site.



**SITE VISIT**

B+K have been working with Construction Youth Trust to support six young people interested in starting their career in the industry including interview advice and practical workshops.



**SOUTHBANK UNIVERSITY VISIT**



**SALVATORIAN COLLEGE MOCK INTERVIEWS**

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# PARENT POWER GROUP UNITED

The Parent Power Group at Ark Swift Primary have been working with the Hammersmith & Fulham Council and Andy Slaughter MP to get a new zebra-crossing installed outside the school gates on South Africa Road. The crossing will provide a safer way for pupils to cross the busy road and reduce the risk of accidents. The campaign began in August 2022 with a series of community walks to learn more about the change parents wanted to see in the local area.





# PUPILS PROUDLY SHOW OFF NEW SCHOOL UNIFORM

In the autumn term, Ark Swift and Ark Burlington Danes primary schools will combine to form Ark White City – a primary school in a new building located on the EdCity site.

The school’s new uniforms feature a logo that was inspired by drawings from pupils at both schools. An external agency, Mirrorsmith, turned these into a symbol representing friendship and community.

The striking logo makes up the initials of Ark White City: two friends form an A, with a W motif behind them, and a C-shaped bridge at their feet.



Headteacher, Sophie Vellacott, said: “I was blown away by the creativity and passion that our children showed in the school logo project. Their designs truly captured the essence of what our school stands for.”

Recently, pupils from both schools eagerly tried on their bright blue and navy uniforms for the first time.

Executive Principal, Daniel Upfield, said: “I was very proud to see our pupils looking so smart in their new uniforms. We look forward to bringing the two schools together in the autumn.”





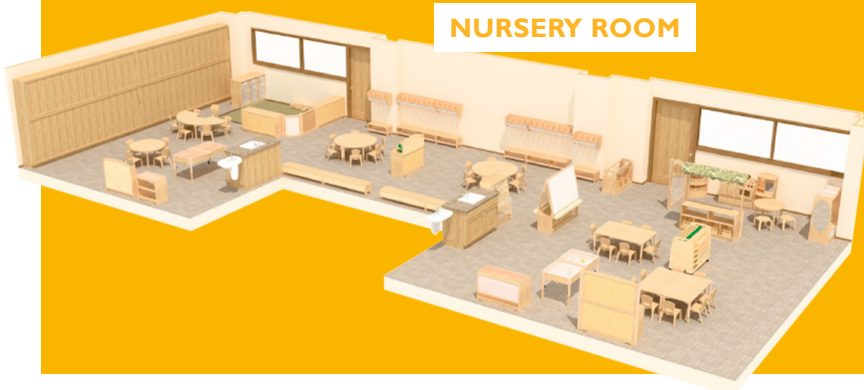
PUPILS IN THE NEW ARK WHITE CITY PRIMARY UNIFORMS

# INSIDE ARK WHITE CITY PRIMARY

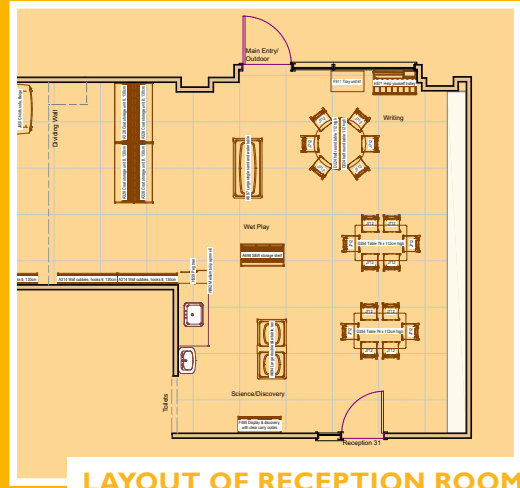
Ark White City Primary is excited to be working with Community Playthings, a furniture company who are designing items for our classrooms that will maximise learning through play. Founded in the early 1940s, Community Playthings uses renewable resources like wood, which are sustainable and safe for children to play with. We can't wait to see these finishes in our new space.



SECTION OF RECEPTION CORRIDOR



NURSERY ROOM



LAYOUT OF RECEPTION ROOM

# LOCAL LETTINGS PLAN FOR EDCITY ESTATE

As we draw closer to the completion of the development, the Allocations and Lettings Team want to remind residents that Hammersmith & Fulham 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 when allocating the new affordable homes – 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. To qualify, you must be registered on the Council's housing register.

Shortlisting for the new homes will commence 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 on our website at [lbhf.gov.uk/housing/housing-register](https://lbhf.gov.uk/housing/housing-register)



## MAKING MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING VISIBLE ON SITE

The B+K team now has six full time mental health first aiders on site and is working with the Lighthouse Club, the only charity that provides emotional, physical and financial wellbeing support to construction workers and their families.





## YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEVELOPMENT GROUP

A group of young people from across the borough has been taking control of plans for WEST Youth Zone.

The Young People's Development Group is helping OnSide to develop the Youth Zone. They have contributed to several key decisions including coming up with the name and branding for the Youth Zone, interior design and will soon unveil hoardings on the perimeter of the EdCity site.

They also recently enjoyed a visit to the North West to see a number of Youth Zones which form part of the OnSide Network including Wigan, Birkenhead and Warrington where they met other young people and heard firsthand all about what's coming to Hammersmith and Fulham.

In addition to this, the group will play a key role in recruiting staff and even interviewed newly-appointed WEST Chief Executive Elanor Gunn. Elanor will spend some time visiting and working at other Youth Zones in the OnSide network ahead of opening.

WEST will soon begin recruiting for several other key positions including its Head of Youth Work. Visit [www.westyouthzone.org](http://www.westyouthzone.org) to find out more about WEST.



## 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](http://www.edcity.org.uk) where you can find an FAQs section.

Or you can get in touch with us at [edcity@arkonline.org](mailto:edcity@arkonline.org)

## CONSTRUCTION QUERIES:

Contact Wayne Catterall on 07880 472480.

## 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 will open in the autumn. Pupils will move from the existing buildings into their brand-new classrooms in the autumn. Completion of 24 affordable homes. The Youth Zone and office will be ready towards the end of the year.

Phase two begins on 28 July 2023, with the construction of the perimeter hoarding – part of which bounds the north of the site and south of Hastings House. These works will be carried out from the school playground. On completion of the hoarding, demolition of the existing Ark Swift Primary Academy building will begin.

### 2024

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

### 2025

**EdCity is complete.**