
Kingsgate Park Update

May 2020



The temporary Sports Centre has been up and running since January. Of course, like all the school buildings, it is now sitting empty. However, sport is continuing in ever more creative ways.

The new Sports Centre

Despite the lockdown in the UK the building of the new Sports Centre is progressing. The Project Manager is closely monitoring the impact of the COVID-19 virus.

The Government has given clear guidance that building sites in England can continue operating, whilst ensuring that they protect the workforce and minimise the risk of spreading the infection. At the end of March Kier paused all building for 24 hours to ensure that they were operating in a way that continued to comply with the Construction Leadership Council's site operating procedures. Where this was not possible, they stopped the work. Fortunately, work on the new Sports Centre project is continuing.



The temporary facilities

Sporting Alternatives

While we cannot replicate team sports at the moment, there is still much that can be done in the form of physical exercise. The Win Coll Sports Department has been making the most of their [twitter account](#) encouraging the boys to take part in sporting challenges, video demonstrations (no large open space required), circuit-style exercises and sports quizzes. A healthy mind in a healthy body!



View of the project, from the temporary Sports Centre

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THE NEW SPORTS CENTRE

As you will see from the images, the old PE Centre has now been entirely demolished.

- The old foundations and floor slabs are being broken up.
- There will be excavations happening below the water table and so a drainage scheme has been installed which will ensure the water is removed before the next stage of work can begin.
- The ground levels will be reduced across the area of the new sports centre and a platform constructed for ground improvement works to be installed. These improvements need to go in before the foundations for the new building commence.
- A new retaining wall structure will be installed along our western boundary.
- The excavation of the new swimming pool will then begin.



Southside view of the project, showing the demolition of the old Sports Centre

FUNDRAISING

The aspiration is to raise £25 million from fundraising towards the £40 million cost. Thanks to the incredible generosity of the community, we have already secured £19 million and have less than two years to raise the remaining £6 million, before it opens at the beginning of 2022. The more generous the donations to this appeal, the more we can protect both the existing endowment, which pays for the current bursary programme and Quiristers as well as the proceeds of the Barton Farm development, for the benefit of expanding bursary provision which remains an absolute priority.

