

Centre of Excellence Update

Summer 2019

Work starts on site, with completion due by Summer 2020

Welcome to the first of our regular updates on the Centre of Excellence.

The centre will provide disabled children, young people and their families with residential community and therapeutic short breaks, plus support from professionals all in one purpose-built space.

One of the first facilities of its kind in the country, the new building will help disabled young people to access the services and support they need in York.

The concept and design for the centre comes directly from the ideas, views and experiences of parents, carers, children and young people from across the city.

Work has now started on the site adjacent to Hob Moor Oaks School and is expected to be completed by Summer 2020.



The centre will provide:

- Flexible short break provision to meet the needs of children and young people with Autism, Learning Disabilities and/or complex health needs
- A base for Community Short Break Workers and the council's Health and Disability Team
- Family intervention and rapid support team (FIRST) and Therapeutic Short Breaks



Centre facilities

Key internal elements of the new centre will include:

- Activity room with an interior climbing wall
- Sensory room
- Accessible children's kitchen
- Quiet room
- Changing Place
- Children and families' meeting room
- Autism friendly bedrooms
- Additional health needs adapted bedrooms
- Safe and secure garden areas
- Low and high stimulus outdoor spaces

A floorplan is available on our webpage

Schools' engagement

Engagement activities with local schools and children and young people include:

- Working with an artist to develop children's artwork and design that can be displayed in the building
- Laying the first brick of the build
- Signing the steel framework
- Naming the new centre

Further Updates

We'll send an update out every three months, but if you have any queries please contact us at coedisabledchildren@york.gov.uk or visit www.york.gov.uk/CentreOfExcellence

Next steps

Now work has started on site we are keen to keep parents, carers, partners, staff and local residents involved in the process. We want to:

- Keep people up to date on progress and the construction so they know what's going to happen and when.
- Involve Hob Moor Oaks pupils with developing artwork, safety signs and the construction process, including laying the first brick on site.
- Start work to develop the playing fields at the back of Hob Moor. This will be completed in the summer holidays.
- Work with disabled children to ensure they are ready to move into the new building next summer.
- Work with managers and staff to make sure that they are ready to deliver the services as soon as the building opens.

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