



EdCity Development Ltd



SPRING 2022

COMMUNITY UPDATE



Welcome to the Spring edition of our community newsletter, featuring progress at EdCity. We give an update on construction at the site, celebrate work getting underway on the new community facilities, and show the results of a ‘name the crane’ contest between local schoolchildren.

EdCity is a £150m not-for-profit scheme 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 have a new public space, with pedestrian routes linking the 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, and Bowmer & Kirkland Ltd is carrying out construction work.

Together, we are building a place that will make a difference to local people. The opportunities for education, work and new homes will mark a new era for the whole White City community.

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO..?



JANUARY

We completed the perimeter concrete beam to the office and started the steel cages for the basement foundations. We also commenced excavating the basement cutting down the concrete piles and digging out the surrounding ground. Works to the school building continued throughout January to expose the concrete piles and prepare the steel foundations ready to be poured.

FEBRUARY

We continued the bulk dig to the office basement reaching the maximum depth of over 6m. Most of the excavated soil was removed from the site, and the concrete was removed from the broken-down concrete piles. On the school building, we continued making the steel cage foundations and commenced a section of the underground drainage.

MARCH

This month saw the erection of our second tower crane over the new school, which will aid the construction logistics for this part of the project. The office foundations have progressed, with the main foundation and lift bases being poured toward the mid-end of March. We have also been working through this time on our 6m deep service tunnel; this will be complete by the end of March, marking a real milestone in the groundwork of this project.



UPCOMING CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

The end of March will mark the completion of the bulk dig for the basement of the nine-storey office building. B&K will then start on the basement floor slab, lift shaft and walls before casting the concrete floors. While this work is ongoing, they will be creating the foundations and drainage for the OnSide Youth Zone, with the steel structure scheduled to start in May. Work will also continue on the primary school and apartments, installing drainage and ground floor slab expected to be poured in May. This will allow the concrete walls and subsequent floors to be poured. From March to mid-Summer, we will see considerable progress in the project's substructure and see all buildings 'coming out of the ground' transforming the site.

EDCITY COMMUNITY FACILITIES KICK-OFF

Hammersmith & Fulham council leader, Cllr Stephen Cowan, and Ark chief executive, Lucy Heller, joined forces to mark the start of work to construct the new community facilities on the site. They hailed the £150m, not-for-profit regeneration of the EdCity site as “an exciting moment for the White City community and beyond”. The team from WEST – the new OnSide Youth Zone centre – spoke to guests visiting the site for the first time about what it will offer young people and the wider community.



Ark chief executive, Lucy Heller, Mark Davies, Chair of WEST Youth Zone, H&F Leader Cllr Stephen Cowan and B&K Project Director, Paul Smith.

FOODBANK INITIATIVE

As part of the community engagement, which helps us positively impact the local community, B&K has been involved in several initiatives, the most recent was their foodbank scheme. This was a collaboration with Powerday, their waste transfer specialists, and they donated £500 worth of products to the local foodbank. As requested, this included male and female sanitary products, non-perishable foods, and cleaning products. The team will continue to work with other businesses that support communities as the project progresses.



Sean Rahilly from Powerday with B&K Project Manager Bipin Mepani.

LOCAL SCHOOL CHILDREN NAME CRANES

Two Year 6 pupils from Ark Swift Primary Academy chose names for the gigantic cranes being used to construct their new school. Charlie Jackson-Pollock, 11, and Raidah Ahmed, 10, were two of more than 40 schoolchildren who took part in a naming competition. Their winning ideas were ‘Jane the Crane’, which is 108m tall and will lift a maximum of nine tonnes. ‘Ark Titan’ is the second crane to be installed on the building site and is 80m tall and will be erected by a giant mobile crane. This crane can lift a maximum weight of 12 tonnes. The cranes will soon wear banners specially produced by B&K.

Ark CEO Lucy Heller, Ark Swift Principal Daniel Upfield, Ark Deputy CEO Michael Clark, with Raidah and Charlie



TRANSFORMATION TIMELINE

2021

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

2022

Ongoing construction of Phase 1: the new primary school, residential, youth zone and the office building.

2023

The new primary school building will open. Pupils will move from the existing buildings into their brand new classrooms in September. Completion of 24 affordable homes. The youth zone and office are due for completion towards the end of the year. Start of Phase 2.

2024

Construction of Phase 2: the nursery, adult education space and the remaining homes.

2025

EdCity is complete.

IMPACT & INNOVATION 110

EdCity is a fantastic addition to the White City Innovation District, and it was recently recognised in Upstream's Impact and Innovation 110 organisations. This prestigious list highlights science, technology, and creative businesses such as Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, BBC Studios, The Royal College of Art, and Novartis UK, all organisations local to Hammersmith and Fulham making a positive impact in their field.

SCHOOL MERGER

The Regional School's Commissioner approved the proposal to bring together Ark Burlington Danes Primary and Ark Swift Primary Academies in September 2023. Further details will be announced shortly.

APPRENTICESHIPS

B&K are looking for engineering, site managerial and quantity surveying apprentices. Anyone interested should contact Bipin Mepani.

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.uk

For site construction queries:

Contact Bipin Mepani on **07500 014806**