



Parent Update – Refurbishment of Penicuik High School

Communication sent on behalf of Fiona Robertson Executive Director

At the full Council meeting on Tuesday 27 June, councillors will discuss a report now published on the council's website, about the replacement for Beeslack Community High School (CHS) - including new Additional Support Needs provision - **and refurbishing Penicuik High School.**

- [Read the report](#)

Councillors will be asked, among other recommendations, to note the progress made in finalising the agreement to buy the Beeslack replacement site with the University of Edinburgh and approve budgets for both projects. The report also sets out the benefits of these new builds which include:

For Beeslack CHS replacement

- The new school will be a science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) Centre of Excellence
- It will have capacity for up to 1600 pupils
- It will offer a high-quality, inspiring learning environment, where pupils can take advantage of the STEM expertise on its doorstep – Easter Bush is a world-leading research and innovation campus specialising in animal biosciences, agritech, veterinary medicine and medicine.
- The ASN provision will have capacity for up to 40 young people with severe and medically complex needs
- ASN facilities will include a hydrotherapy pool, sensory garden, suitable changing facilities and accessible playground equipment and space

For Penicuik High School

- The refurbished school will have places for 945 pupils in a high quality, fit-for-purpose learning environment.
- Both buildings will be refurbished to make them more energy efficient
- Dining facilities and onsite community and sports facilities will be expanded
- Enhanced ASN facilities will be provided for 24 pupils, currently just 12 can be accommodated

After Tuesday's meeting, we will work closely with parents/carers, staff, pupils, partner agencies and the wider community to take forward these transformational initiatives.

Subject to the council approving the projects, a statutory consultation on relocating Beeslack CHS, establishing ASN provision and creating the school's catchment area will get underway at the start of the new academic session. You will have the chance to give your views on the proposals.

Fiona Robertson

Executive Director Children, Young People and Partnerships