



The Crest Boys' and the Crest Girls' Academies transformation key questions

1.0 The Academies and the wider context

1.1 Why are you building new Academies and who is funding them?

The existing buildings at Crest Boys' and Crest Girls' Academies are now more than 50 years old and are not in good condition. The original buildings do not provide enough room for the number of students, and over the years temporary classrooms have been used to provide more teaching space. This does not make the schools easy to use, manage or maintain and it also reduces the amount of outdoor space available for teaching and recreation.

The new Academies will create excellent facilities for students, staff and the whole community. We aim to place the academies at the heart of the local community and have resources such as a library and theatre with improved community use. The Academies will have excellent outdoor areas which will serve the needs of the Academies and the local community for both play and leisure.

The project is funded by central government. Work is being carried out by Wates Construction Ltd.

1.2 What are the official geographical catchment areas?

The Crest Boys' and Crest Girls' Academies are open to all boys and girls of the right age who wish to attend a non-denominational academy. Along with other admissions criteria, priority is given to applications from students living within a three mile radius of the Academies.

2.0 The scope of the new Academies

2.1 How much will the new Academies cost?

The Government will be investing around £40m in the rebuilding of the new Academies

2.2 How many student places will be provided? Will there still be a Girls' and Boys Academy? 6th Form?

Crest Girls' Academy will provide 900 places and Crest Boys' Academy will provide 750 places. There will also be a joint 6th Form for boys and girls, providing 400 places.

This represents an increase of 300 secondary school places over 5 years which helps Brent address the predicted shortfall of school places in this area.

2.3 What accommodation will be provided?

New, modern teaching facilities will be provided to address the curriculum needs, including classrooms, laboratories, activity and drama studios, a theatre, sports halls and an assembly hall, dining facilities, a learning resource centre (library), ICT and business and enterprise suites, music rehearsal and performance spaces as well as multi-purpose seminar rooms that can also be used as faith rooms. A range of outdoor sports facilities will also be provided.

2.4 How many storeys will the new Academy buildings be? How far are they away from existing residential properties?

Four pavilion buildings are proposed. There will be one building each for the boys and girls academies and two building joined to create some of the shared spaces and additional boy's and girl's accommodation.

The teaching blocks to the north and south of the site (boy's and girl's blocks) will each be 4 storeys high. The two blocks in between (shared buildings) will generally be four storeys high above ground with a further two storeys below ground, housing the sports facilities.

The new buildings will be at least 35 metres away from the existing residential properties and in most cases further than this.

2.5 What materials will the new Academies be built from?

The lower floors of the new Academies will be built from brick with aluminium framed windows and doors. The upper floors will have a combination of timber cladding, coloured panels and render; all materials will be robust and durable and easy to maintain.

2.6 What sports pitches/facilities will be provided externally and will they be used out of school hours? Will there be flood lighting?

The new Academies will provide a wide range of sports facilities. Externally, these will include a 4-lane running track, a 3-court Multi-Use Games area and

a separate artificial turf sports pitch, providing space for tennis, hockey, netball and football. There will also be cricket nets and soft and hard areas that can be used for a variety of sports, including basketball and external table tennis.

The sports pitches will be flood lit and available for out of hours community use.

2.7 How will you mitigate any noise from the proposed Academies impacting on the neighbouring residential properties and gardens?

During construction, working hours and restrictions on noise and nuisance causing activities are regulated by the council. Such activities can only take place between 8am and 5pm on Monday – Friday and 8am – 1pm on Saturdays.

The completed new Academies will have more landscaped areas, including shrubs and trees around the site boundary. These will help to reduce noise transfer during the school day when the Academy is in use.

2.8 How will the roof terraces be used and managed?

The roof terraces will be used for supervised teaching only during academy opening hours. Access will be strictly controlled by school staff.

3.0 Access and Car Parking

3.1 Where will the access to the new Academies be?

There will still be a pedestrian entrance from Crest Road, as there is now. Visitor parking and deliveries will also enter from Crest Road. In addition, the pedestrian access from Dollis Hill Lane will be retained and staff car parking will also enter from there.

3.2 What will be the impact on traffic and car-parking? Where will it be and how will it be managed?

The proposed scheme will include an additional vehicular entrance from Dollis Hill Lane and the majority of staff parking will use this entrance.

3.3 Where will the car and bus drop off/pick up be located? How will this be managed and the beginning and end of the school day?

Car drop off arrangements will be generally as they are now. There will be a mini-bus parking and drop-off area within the school grounds, as now. There will be access and spaces for visitors, staff and students requiring disabled parking.

3.4 How many car parking spaces will there be?

There will be 105 parking spaces in total including disabled parking spaces and electric car charging points. The number of spaces provided has been agreed with the local planning authority.

3.5 Will there be cycle parking ? How many places ?

Yes, there will be more cycle parking spaces - 238 covered cycle parking spaces will be provided.

4.0 The benefits for the local community

4.1 To what extent will the local community benefit from these proposals?

There will be a range of new internal and external facilities for the community to use and these will be easier to access.

Apprenticeships will be offered to local people during construction, there will also be an emphasis on local labour and a local supply chain and the project should help regenerate the area.

4.2 What facilities will the local community be able to use ?

The local community will have access to the external sports pitches and the internal sports halls. They will also have access to a range of facilities within the new Academies, including the Learning Resource Centre, Theatre, Music studios, halls, dining and meeting spaces.

4.3 What hours will the Academies and site be open for community use ?

Community access will be timetabled and arranged with the Academies but will be at least 30 hours. The hours of community use will be agreed in consultation with new Academies.

A Community Use Strategy will be developed and agreed with the Planning Service before occupation of the new buildings.

5.0 Environmental design

5.1 How environmentally friendly will the new school be?

The new Academies have been designed to meet high sustainable standards, ensuring the redevelopment has a low environmental impact. We have orientated the buildings to maximise natural daylight (without glare or solar gain) and we will be using innovative ways of recycling energy to heat and ventilate the new buildings. Where possible, we will be harnessing natural resources, such as solar energy.

6.0 The Construction Works

6.1 When will the demolitions and the building works commence?

The work is beginning on 17 December 2011. The work is divided into three phases:

| Phase | Dates | Work to be completed |
|----------------|----------------------------|---|
| Enabling Works | December 2011 – April 2012 | Form the new vehicle entrance at Dollis Hill Lane, build the new car park, install new 3-storey temporary classrooms and set up the building site |
| Phase 1 | April 2012 - April 2014 | Removal of the existing temporary classrooms and construction of 4 new multi-storey pavilion buildings plus service roads and landscaped areas |
| Phase 2 | April 2014 – December 2014 | Demolition of the existing buildings and completion of the all-weather sports pitches and all remaining landscaping |

6.2 How long will construction take? When will the new Academies open?

The new Academies will open in April 2014, with all demolitions of existing buildings and construction of new external areas finished by December 2014.

6.3 What hours of the day will be permitted for building works and access/egress of construction vehicles from/to the site?

This will be in accordance with planning conditions but it is proposed that the site be open for works from 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday and 8am to 1pm Saturday. Vehicle movements will be restricted at school start and finish times during term time.

6.4 How will the security of the site be managed during the construction?

Construction access will be from Crest Road where a security guard will be positioned. If specifically required, construction access will also be achieved from Dollis Hill Lane with a security guard present. The construction area will be segregated from the academies and adjacent properties by secure fencing or hoarding.

7 General Questions

7.1 Will the value of my house go down?

Anecdotal and other evidence suggests that where excellent new facilities are created for schools they serve to attract people to an area often with an incidental impact on increasing house values.

7.2 Where can I get further information?

- You can [view the latest copy of our newsletter](#)
- Visit www.brent.gov.uk/crestacademies
- Get updates at www.twitter.com/crestrebuild
- Contact the Project Manager, Cheryl Painting by emailing thecrestacademies@brent.gov.uk or calling 020 8937 3227.

The Wates project office will be located within the site and we will arrange drop-ins for local residents.

Further information will also be posted on our community information board For site related matters - you can contact Wates project manager Joe Staunton on 07795 496543 or by email joe.staunton@wates.co.uk

7.3 Is there a public right of way on the site?

The Council's Highways Department have confirmed that there is no public right of way on the Crest Academies site.

7.4 Will an access route be created into the Dollis Hill Residential Estate from Crest Academies?

There is no intention to extend the access road proposed from Dollis Hill Lane to the school site into the new residential development. The new vehicle access road into the site from Dollis Hill Lane is to serve the staff car park. It is not an adopted road but a private access road into a school site.

7.5 Why are the Girls' and Boys' Academies single-sex?

The two schools have served the community in Neasden and Dollis Hill for over 50 years and they fulfil a need and demand for single sex non-denominational education.

To find out more about the academies, go to www.thecrestgirlsacademy.org.uk or www.thecrestboysacademy.org.uk