



Deer Park School

LEARN ENJOY SUCCEED



BUILD UPDATE - MAY HALF-TERM 2020

School Completion Delayed until Autumn: In our last newsletter we wrote that cautious optimism was tinged with nervous concern. Well unfortunately our worst fears have come to pass and Kier have now confirmed (19 May) that due to an embargo by UK Power Networks (UKPN) they have failed to respond to all the requests to attend the site and upgrade the electrical sub-station which has been on the critical path. The effect of this is that the handover of the school will be delayed until October / November. This is hugely disappointing and Lidl, the ESFA and the Trust have made very strong representations. Indeed the Trust are advised the matter has now been escalated to Cabinet level.

It was Alexander Pope who wrote that 'hope springs eternal' but until the grip of this terrible virus is further loosened, we cannot see all the hope in the world making UKPN changing their risk management approach, whatever the pressure from the DFE or Cabinet.

Site Progress: Overall site progress against the programme continues to be affected by current the Coronavirus situation and the need for social distancing on site and the supply of materials from off-site. There has been a reduced number of operatives to those planned, as under the current conditions the maximum is 50.

Since we last wrote to you until 19 May when we last met with the site managers the following progress has been made.

- Screed completed to the 2nd floor and much progressed on the 1st floor.
- Plasterboarding has continued across the 1st and 2nd floors, so all the school classrooms now look like completed but unpainted rooms.
- The main areas have been tested (and passed), allowing the commencement of the schools' solar panels - this will be one of the Borough's most sustainable schools in terms of energy usage..
- M&E 1st Fix activities have been progressing to all areas.
- Windows and Curtain wall frames have also continued (where materials available).

- The school plantroom, store welfare area and classrooms are much advanced and from the street brickwork has started to East, South and West elevations.

A few Photos from our last site visit.



2nd. floor classroom, dry lining now completed



Solar Panels now being put in place.



Plantroom installation in progress

This news has made it a truly dispiriting week for all staff, as we know it will be for you too. Our colleagues in RHACC have been amazingly supportive and have quickly confirmed that they will continue to accommodate us and give us more space with our own entrance to the college direct from the school's playground to accommodate the two extra classrooms we will need in September. We will write to you with more details of this. Keep Safe.