

News

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Community Solutions for Schools Opens New North Community School

New primary school points the way for the community

Islington's first new primary school for 30 years celebrates its official opening on Tuesday 26 June – and is already making even bigger plans for the future.

New North Community School, in New North Road, N1 currently has 410 pupils, who chose the name for the school themselves. The school community also worked closely with the architects on the designs for the school. The new school is built on the site of the old Charles Lamb Primary School, which joined Ecclesbourne Primary School to form the brand new primary school.

In addition to classrooms, the new school site is also home to a new dance studio, staff and office areas, a multi-use games area and a caretaker's house. From September 2007 the site will also welcome a new children's centre to provide a wealth of services under one roof for parents of under-fives. There will also be 'extended school' activities that run after the traditional school day has finished.

The school development has provided much-needed affordable housing, including homes for key workers like teachers, adjacent to the school. And to add a touch of green to the area, an ecological garden is being created on the Dibden Triangle open space.

Cllr Ursula Woolley, Islington Council's Executive Member for Children and Young People, said: "Investing in families and children is something I'm proud to say Islington Council does well – as New North School demonstrates. This school is a real boost for the community. The modern new school facilities and the children's centre are great for local families, and the affordable housing is certainly welcome too."

Islington Council invested £7.6 million in building New North School, in partnership with developer Community Solutions for Schools Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Morgan Sindall Investments Limited. Besides the new school, the overall regeneration project also provides 59 flats for affordable housing and 62 flats for private sale.

"Islington Council required a creative and innovative approach to the regeneration of the area – we were pleased to help them achieve an outstanding result," says Nigel Bennett, Managing Director of Community Solutions for Schools. "It was a pleasure to work with Islington Council to help them deliver this flagship school."