



PEEBLES HIGH SCHOOL

PROGRESS UPDATE FOR MEMBERS AND THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

APRIL 2025

This is a progress update on the new Peebles High School project, that is being delivered by Scottish Borders Council, in partnership with Hub South East and BAM Construction.



Progress Update

The curtain walling and precast concrete cladding panels are now all complete.

The roof and rooflight works are nearing completion, despite some challenging weather, with progress made to the hyperbolic paraboloid rooflights as well as the main roof coverings.

A major milestone was reached at the end of 2024 with the roof mounted plantroom negotiating the narrow approach roads through Peebles, before being lifted into position on the roof using a 300t crane.

Internally the works continue with the stud partition walls completing, and Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing installations progressing well.

Various other internal finishes elements have commenced also including decoration; joinery doors and skirtings; plasterboard and raft ceilings; floor coverings and the first components of the kitchen have been installed.

External to the building, the new water and hydrant main has been laid in the ground and the slabs for the sprinkler tank, high voltage (HV) substation and low voltage (LV) switch room are complete. The HV Transformer and LV switch room have been lifted into position and associated cabling works are underway.



Planned Activities

The focus over the next period will be to complete the roof coverings and rooflights, to allow the remainder of the roof mounted plant installation including photo voltaic panels to complete. Steel colonnades and brise soleil (solar shading) will commence to the building facades.

Internally works will continue with progress being made to complete the MEP installation, ceilings, decoration, floor coverings and other finishing trades.

Completion

Works continue to progress towards our Phase 1 planned completion date for the building of Autumn 2025. Phase 2 demolition of the existing school buildings and subsequent hard and soft landscaping will follow with a final completion in July 2026.

Community Benefits

Engagement with Peebles HS continued with visits to site for the enhanced provision Thistle Class and inclusion groups. Pupils are developing design proposals for metalwork sculpture and R-Evolve are working with pupils to produce a bench from recycled bicycle components.

BAM have engaged with the Pupil Parliament to develop proposals on three information events to promote the positivity associated with the new build.

Both Hub South East and BAM attended the meet the buyer event in Galashiels at the end of last year. Along with contractor MMM Joinery, BAM attended a careers event at Peebles HS, and with supply chain FES and MMM Joinery, also completed lunch time career talk sessions.

BAM and our supply chain supported Peebles HS Apprentice Week delivering talks to S4 classes and attended the apprenticeship careers fair on 5th March, where we provided information on apprenticeship and career opportunities within construction and civil engineering.

On the 4th and 5th March BAM organised and participated in S3 and S4 classroom apprenticeship career talks, where current apprentices and fully qualified electricians, joiners and construction



managers spoke to pupils, providing information on routes to apprenticeships, career paths and what is involved being an apprentice.

We are liaising with Peebles High School on work experience placements opportunities in May and BAM continue dialogue with Borders College on student work placement, BAM have offered 9 placements.

Nineteen apprentices are currently working on site, 9 MMM joiners, 7 FES electricians and engineers, 2 roofers and 1 scaffolder.

Safe Environment for All

We continue to drive high standards for health and safety on the project, engendering a safe environment for all operatives, visitors and the neighbouring public, teachers and pupils.

This includes regular inspections by our site team, visits by H&S Advisors and visits by senior management and company directors to ensure standards are maintained.

The winter months brought their own challenges with frozen temperatures and ice and there are procedures in place for de-icing routes into the building and also controlling access to the roof works until access is made safe.



Miscellaneous

A site visit took place with Headteacher Kevin Ryalls, Councillor Julie Pirone, Craig Hoy MSP and David Mundell MP to show them the progress being made on the new facility.

More Information

For further information on the project or work on site, please contact the BAM Site Team at peebleshsadmin@bam.com.

