



PEEBLES HIGH SCHOOL – PHASE 2

PROGRESS UPDATE FOR MEMBERS AND THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

AUGUST 2026

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.

Phase 2 works are progressing following the successful handover and occupation of the new school in November 2025.

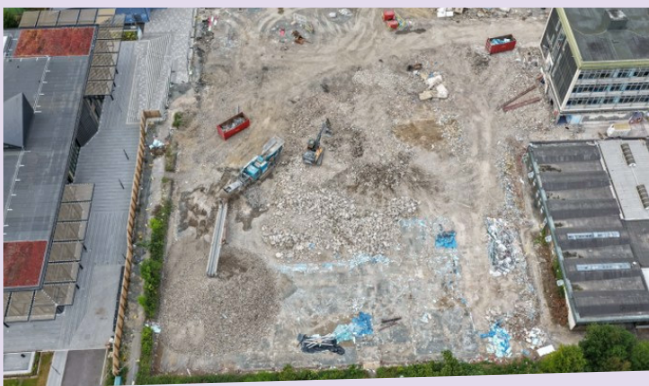
This phase includes demolition and clearance of the former school buildings, followed by earthworks, drainage and hard and soft landscaping. Once complete, the external environment will provide an open and welcoming space for pupils, staff and the wider community, with staff parking, outdoor learning areas, improved drop-off provision and dedicated pedestrian routes.

A community drop-in event was held at the new school on 29 May 2026, giving residents and stakeholders an opportunity to hear about the scope and programme for Phase 2 and to speak directly with representatives from Scottish Borders Council, BAM Construction and the project design team.

Progress on Demolition and Ecology

Specialist surveys, soft stripping and the removal of hazardous materials have been undertaken as part of the demolition programme. Demolition and clearance are now complete for the Millennium Building, Building 36, the Science Block and its extensions, the workshop and the redundant substation.

Ecology surveys and the required protection measures for the identified bat population and nesting birds have also been completed. These measures will continue to guide the sequencing and management of the works.



Asbestos Management and Community Assurance

As is common in buildings of this age, detailed surveys identified asbestos-containing materials in parts of the former school scheduled for demolition.

Their removal is being managed by licensed specialists in accordance with strict safety requirements and under the oversight of the relevant professional and regulatory bodies, including the Health and Safety Executive and the

What Happens Next

The next stage of the programme will include:

- Completion of licensed asbestos-removal works within the music rooms and kitchen/canteen areas.
- Completion of crushing and levelling works across the footprints of the Millennium Building and Building 36.
- Demolition of the Tower Block and the remaining low-level connection to the Assembly Building, including the former reception and office accommodation.
- Installation of lighting within the car park and bus turning area.

Demolition is expected to continue through the winter, followed by earthworks and landscaping in line with the project programme.

Site Access and Traffic Management

The main access for demolition and landscaping traffic will remain the existing entrance from Bonnington Road. Craigerne Lane will be retained as a secondary access in accordance with the Phase 2 Traffic Management Plan.

During landscaping, topsoil stored temporarily on the rugby pitch south of Craigerne Lane will be moved into the Phase 2 site. Once this operation is complete, the stockpile and storage compound will be removed and the rugby pitch reinstated to its original condition.

Site Security

A secure perimeter remains in place around the site, supported by smart CCTV linked to an Alarm Receiving Centre. During working hours, concerns should be directed to the site team using the project contact arrangements. Outside working hours, site security concerns should be reported to Police Scotland on 101.

Communications and Contact

Phase 2 remains focused on safely clearing the former school site and delivering high-quality external spaces that will benefit the school and wider community. Further updates will be shared as the works progress. Questions or concerns about construction activity can be directed to the project team through the established site contact arrangements.

