

Cymunedau **Dysgu** Cynaliadwy



## Sustainable Communities for Learning

Welcome to Monmouthshire Council's second Sustainable Communities for Learning newsletter. We hope you enjoy reading these updates from the council regarding the new 3-19 school in Abergavenny. You can follow us on Twitter [here](#).

The Sustainable Communities for Learning programme is a One Wales commitment and a collaboration between the Welsh Government, and Monmouthshire County Council. It is a major, long-term and strategic capital investment programme with the aim of creating a generation of Sustainable Schools in Wales. You can access our website here: [Sustainable Communities for Learning - Monmouthshire](#)

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### Final green light given for 3-19 school plans

- ✓ *Welsh Government*
- ✓ *Planning*
- ✓ *Full Council*

We are delighted that on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June, MCC gave the third and final green light to Abergavenny's proposed 3-19 school, set to open in September 2023 and move into its purpose built accommodation in September 2024.



Monmouthshire County Council's Leader, Cllr. Mary Ann Brocklesby, said: "It is wonderful news that County Council has approved the funding for the all-through school. The new school will bring many social benefits to the town of Abergavenny. It is an important investment for the whole community and for the futures of the students who will be the main beneficiaries of this development.

"We want to build sustainable and resilient communities that support the well-being of current and future generations. This ethos is at the heart of everything we do to improve the economic, social, environmental, and cultural well-being of Monmouthshire. There are nine schools that will feed into this all-through school, so for Abergavenny residents it will be 'our school'."

Cllr. Martyn Groucutt, Cabinet Member for Education, said: "I'm over the moon that this project has now been given three green lights and is ready to move on to the next step. It's also hugely reassuring to see what facilities have been considered for pupils with complex neurodevelopmental and learning needs. This is an extremely exciting time for not only the young people of Abergavenny, but the town itself. The surrounding community will benefit greatly from the all-through school, and I am incredibly excited to see the project develop over the next two years."

In accordance with Monmouthshire Climate Emergency commitments, the building will be the first operationally net zero carbon 3-19 school in Wales, using low energy in both construction and operation, with a focus on significantly reducing pressure on future planned and reactive maintenance budgets. {See FAQ below}

You can read more [here](#).



## Joint Schools Council: *One Year On*



In July, the joint school's council met in Deri View primary school to review the progress that had been made towards the end of the first year of their design consultations.

The student council viewed a digital design animation of the new 3-19 school and reported on aspects of the design they were particularly pleased to see well developed at the end of year one. If you would like to watch the digital animation of the Abergavenny 3-19 school, then [please click here](#).

See what the joint school's council had to say:



**Hywel from King Henry's school said:** *"I like that the sixth form has a light and relaxed area where we can study and chat, and I think that a lot of sixth form students will really appreciate having this space too. I am happy that the library is staying central in the new school, because that is my favourite thing about my current school."*



**Cameron, from King Henry VIII, said:** *"I like the full-size pitches and the two small pitches too. I love playing rugby and football, so it will be great to have the 3G pitches."*



**Millie-Rose, from Deri View, said:** *"I like how the social staircases are really open and have a lot of room for me and my friends to sit on and enjoy our lunch. It's good that they're inside and outside too."*



The school council finished their meeting by looking forward to **September 2022** and continuing their work with the project design team and architects on:

- Exploring the interior design of the new school including colours, signage and wayfinding (how to find your way around)
- Spending some time maximising the benefits from the growing, horticultural and forest areas of the new school.

## Ready, Steady, Go

Morgan Sindall, our construction partners, are gearing up to start work on the King Henry School site on July 25<sup>th</sup> when schools break up for the summer holidays. Access to the school site will remain as it currently is for the duration of the summer with Abergavenny leisure centre offering a full programme of activities. Updates on construction work will be published throughout the summer and in preparation for the start of the new academic year in September. Updates can be followed on our [Twitter](#).



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## Morgan Sindall support next generation of engineers

Morgan Sindall is delighted to announce they will be sponsoring the King Henry School Year 12 team in the prestigious Engineering Education Scheme Wales programme for 2022-2023. During the project students will research and design a solution to a real world engineering problem and then go on to produce a final proposal, model and working prototype. Through their sponsorship Morgan Sindall Site Team and Consultant Engineers, Architects and Designers will work alongside the team, providing mentoring, financial support for materials and travel as well as opportunities for the students to see the problem in context by visiting the engineers on site and at their company premises. Mr Curran, Head of Technology at King Henry VIII School, said 'I am so pleased that Morgan Sindall are keen to support the STEM programme here, and across our cluster, over the next couple of years while they are our neighbours. Students will gain a tremendous insight into the real world of design and engineering and all the possibilities this brings'.



*KHS' Ben Morris winning project at the UK Triumph Design awards this year*

Steve Langford, Project Director for Morgan Sindall added "Having personally overseen and been involved in three EESW projects within schools in South Wales the end results never cease to amaze and inspire me. To see the transformation in the team of enthusiastic, yet inexperienced students, into young adults that are able to present and explain their ideas to both their peers as well as senior industry leaders is outstanding to see.' Steve went on to say that the team is 'not being bound by our predisposed constraints such as time, cost and essentially engrained bad industry habits, they are free to come up with innovative and often incredible ideas (not all are always practical on a building site though!)"



I have always seen a good mix of students putting themselves forward onto these programmes, but from a personal point of view having a teenage daughter who is mad on science and keen to join the construction industry in a design capacity, I am particularly interested in the EESW 'Girls in STEM' project. So... throw away your stereotypical "Builders" mentality. Morgan Sindall are a dynamic and modern project team that are here not only to build an amazing school but to enthuse and inform all that are interested along the way!"

**MORGAN  
SINDALL**  
**GROUP**

## Full Summer Programme at Abergavenny Leisure Centre



**AELODAETH 6 WYTHNOS**  
**6 WEEK MEMBERSHIP**

**DIM OND ONLY**  
**£49**  
**DIM FFI YMUNO!**  
**NO JOINING FEE!**

**BYDDWCH YN**  
**EITHRIADOL YR HAF HWN**  
**BE EXTRAORDINARY**  
**THIS SUMMER**

**monmouthshire**  
sir fynyw

**MonLife**  
YN WEITHREDOL ACTIVE  
www.monlife.co.uk/active

SCAN ME

T'S AND C'S APPLY

The image features a woman in athletic wear performing a squat with a resistance band. The background is a vibrant green and blue gradient. The text is bold and colorful, with the price £49 being the most prominent element. Logos for MonLife and Monmouthshire are also present.

Get ready to be extraordinary this Summer at Abergavenny Leisure Centre with a 6-week MonLife Active membership. Abergavenny Leisure Centre has a full programme of activities over the school holidays with over 90 fitness classes a week to choose from, including instructor led as well as virtual sessions. There is also a packed pool programme including free swim, spin and gym sessions for young people aged 12yrs to 18yrs.

The swimming lesson programme will continue throughout the summer including the newly introduced bubbles and splash classes for under 5yrs. Find their full programme on the Monlife app or at [www.monlife.co.uk](http://www.monlife.co.uk)

## FAQs

### What sporting facilities are proposed for the new school site?

There will be a 3G pitch for sports such as football and rugby as well as an artificial carpet pitch for sports such as hockey and short tennis. In addition, there are three multi use courts for a range of sports including netball, basketball and tennis.

To the south of the site there will be a full size and a junior grass pitch for rugby and football in the winter and athletics in the summer. Hard standing and forest areas to the north of the site provide opportunities for cycling proficiency and cyclocross.



Internally there is a sports hall where internal cricket nets compliment external nets located at a neighbouring community cricket club. An activity studio for aerobics, martial arts and gymnastics is located close to the sports hall with a specialist dance studio equipped with bars and mirrors situated nearby.



### Are students and teachers involved in designing the new school?

Yes, students and teachers have been involved in all stages of the design of the new school. MCC Sustainable Communities for Learning Team coordinate a wide range of consultations and ensure that consultees receive feedback on their contributions.

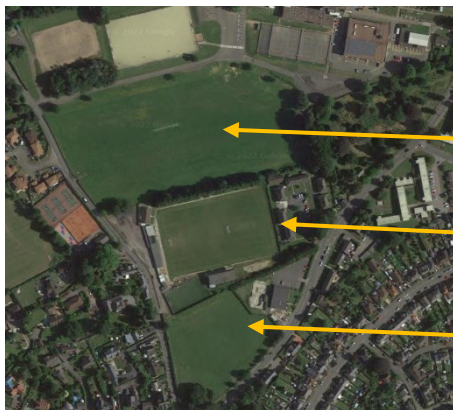
### The new school will be an NZC school. What does this mean?

The new school will be Net Zero Carbon (NZC) in its operation and low carbon in its construction. It will be the first NZC 3-19 school in Wales. NZC buildings have a 'fabric first' approach to their design to ensure that the energy required to run them is low and sustainable. Along with other features, energy generation equipment is included on the **roof** and electric charging points for cars included in the car park.



### **How will the KHS site be affected during the building of the new school?**

All the current school buildings will be maintained during the construction of the new school. Classrooms, labs, workshops, halls and studios will therefore be unaffected. In addition, the leisure centre will continue to offer a full programme of activities. A large all-weather hard-surfaced area will be laid on the existing school field to provide for external physical education as well as a social space to be used by students during breaks in the school day. Additional grass sports pitches are being provided during the period of the build on Lower Meadow and by our neighbours at Abergavenny Town FC.



Existing school field

Abergavenny Town FC

Lower Meadow

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### **How can you contact us?**

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**Sustainable Communities for Learning**

For regular updates, you can follow [Sustainable Communities for Learning on Twitter](#), or visit our webpage here: [Sustainable Communities for Learning - Monmouthshire](#)

If you still have any questions, you can visit our [FAQs page](#).