

Cymunedau Dysgu Cynaliadwy

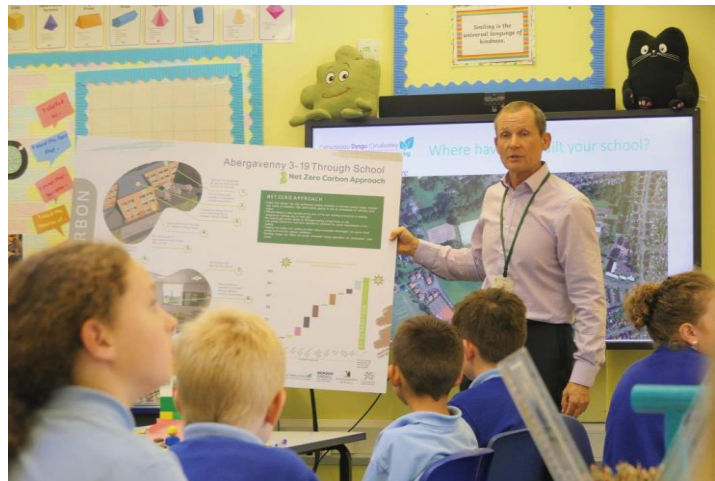
Sustainable Communities for Learning

Welcome to Monmouthshire Council's third 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](#)

Cluster schools' workshops around Abergavenny

As work on the King Henry VIII School site continues to progress, Monmouthshire County Council's Sustainable Communities for Learning Team have been hosting engagement sessions in Abergavenny's primary schools to support pupils in their understanding of sustainability and sustainable school design.



After the plans for the new 3-19 school were given the green light by Welsh Government, Full Council and the Planning Committee during last academic year, the building programme has made a successful start. For example, the new bus drop-off and parent pick-up on Pen-y-Pound Lane is now open and is operating successfully.



Through consultations, Student Councils have helped the Design Team make important decisions on aspects such as outdoor learning, classroom design and sustainability. This term, the Council's Sustainable Communities for Learning Team have been able to feedback to pupils how their ideas have been incorporated into the design, as well as sharing with them the sustainability features of the new school. The new 3-19 school will be Monmouthshire's first NZC (Net Zero Carbon) school.

The Sustainable Communities for Learning Team have been visiting primary schools within the catchment area of the King Henry VIII school, hosting a 'Sustainable Buildings' workshop. The workshops include Year 5 and 6 classes who may enrol in the new school in September 2023 and September 2024.



Cllr. Martyn Groucutt, Cabinet Member for Education, said: "I am so pleased to see the incredible progress being made to the Abergavenny 3-19 school site. Having a sustainable, NZC school in Monmouthshire will be a huge step in the right direction for the younger generation. I am really looking forward to seeing how much the engagement sessions with pupils have positively affected the design process of the new school, all whilst the pupils are educating themselves on important matters, such as sustainability and reducing a carbon footprint."

Inspiring architects of the future – Luca's work experience



"Earlier this term I completed a week's work experience with the building contractors and architects of our new school build, Morgan Sindall and Rio Architects. I spent the week working alongside some fantastic architects and site managers.

It was amazing to see how the first Carbon Neutral/NZC 3-19 school in Wales has been designed and how the construction has started.

Not only was it an excellent experience, but I also felt that I was able to voice my own opinions and thoughts regarding the project.

The week involved three days on the school construction site and then two days at the amazing offices of Rio Architects in Cardiff. This was an invaluable experience for me as I am designing a school building as part of my A Level Product Design coursework.

The week allowed me to experience specialist software such as REVIT and SketchUp as well as design principles when modelling facades and high detail prototypes. By improving my knowledge and understanding of these skills, I was then able to put them into my own work for my Product Design coursework in designing buildings and creating quick scaled prototypes.

I am very grateful to have had the opportunity to work with some amazing people at Morgan Sindall and Rio Architects and feel it gave me a fantastic perspective on the reality of the industry. I am now even more invested in pursuing my dream of being an architect myself one day."

Luca, King Henry VIII Year 13 student

'It's Only a Builders Tale'

or

Preparing to Build Foundations in a Wet Winter

We arrived to set up on the King Henry school site in a very sunny Abergavenny and even had time at the end of working days to visit some of the local sights and take in some of the wonderful food on offer in the town centre and surrounding area.

The first few months were spent clearing the ground for the main construction work and also taking on a mammoth amount of preparation work; creating the new temporary bus drop off, a new hardstanding play area, adding a direct access to the Lower Meadow field for PE curriculum sport and also adjusting the highway junction on Old Hereford Road to make it two-way, allowing us to close the through road on the site.

Then came WINTER and the rain... after investing in what felt like Wales' total supply of waterproof gear we got stuck into the work at hand with the sole intention of getting the site ready for adding the foundations in the new year. These works very much depend on what falls from the sky, so we spend our days finding the most optimistic weather forecast app and by that we mean the one with the least amount of rainfall on it!

We look forward to the spring when the new school building will start to emerge from the ground and the enormous amount of work done to date can be seen by others.



Steve Langford – Project Director Morgan Sindall



If you would like to find out more, please visit our website: <http://bit.ly/3OJBv70>

Morgan Sindall support Monmouthshire County Council's Christmas Wishes Appeal



Cllr. Martyn Groucutt, Cabinet Member for Education, accepting very generous donations to the MCC Christmas Wishes appeal from Morgan Sindall and their subcontractor partners. The Christmas Wishes appeal aims to ensure that Monmouthshire's most vulnerable children and young people are not forgotten this Christmas. Thank you!!

Take a virtual walk around Abergavenny's all-through 3-19 school



Meet the Teams: Sustainable Communities for Learning Team



Cath Saunders – Programme Manager, Sustainable Communities for Learning

Cath has over 30 years' experience working within the public sector and her expertise has an education focus particularly the planning and construction of new schools. As overall Programme Manager, Cath is the point of contact for the 3-19 project and her role is to manage and coordinate the multi-disciplinary client team ensuring the building is delivered on time and within budget.

She has oversight of the whole project ranging from the initial school reorganisation through to making sure all the resources are in place for children and young people attending this exciting new school have the best possible start in life.



Tim Bird – Educational Advisor, Sustainable Communities for Learning

Tim has taught in Monmouthshire schools for over twenty years and is passionate about school design and learning.

Tim leads regular consultations with teachers, school staff, student councils and a wide range of further stakeholders to ensure that their collective thoughts are central in the design of the new school. As Tim always says, 'hundreds of pairs of eyes will get it right'.



Poppy Harris – Project Officer, Sustainable Communities for Learning

Poppy has worked on Monmouthshire's last three 21st Century Schools schemes and specialises in project liaison and decant into the new building(s).

Poppy will be working with the project team and our stakeholders to ensure information is shared between parties and that all preparations are in place for the final move.

Meet the Morgan Sindall Operational Team

Meet the Operational Team: If you have any concerns regarding the works, please contact our Morgan Sindall Construction site team below.

Project Director:
Steve Langford: 07966411978



Senior Site Manager:
Scott Morris: 07970846325



Project Manager:
Dafydd Morris: 07890 957963



Logistics Manager:
Gary Corbett: 07811043327



How can you contact us?

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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](#)