Welcome to our second newsletter keeping you updated on the project to build a new resource for disabled children and young people on the site at Peak school.

Work started on site in September 2010 and is due for completion in Autumn 2011. We plan to start using the units early November though some work on the grounds will continue beyond then.

The whole building, Peak Lodge, will comprise of two separate 6 bed units. The Willows will cater for children needing 52 week provision who attend Peak school. Children and young people will only be placed here if it is agreed that their educational needs can be met by the school.

The other, Hill View, will provide short breaks for children from throughout Derbyshire. Children and young people will be aged 10 to 18 with severe and complex disabilities. This service will contribute towards Derbyshire meeting the new ‘Short Break’s Duty’ and the eligibility criteria will be the same as that for other short break residential services.

We are planning so far to start off with using 8 beds across the 2 units.

The building is single storey (see artist’s impression above) the bedrooms all have en-suite facilities. There is a lounge, kitchen and dining room in each unit.

Consultation with parents, governors and staff on the “Scheme to Establish Residential Units on the Site of Peak School “ ending the School’s Boarding Provision is well underway.
Architect

There is good progress with the building coming on well, after a number of mainly weather related problems which caused delays. The roof is now on and we anticipate that the revised timetable for handing over the building will be met. The contractor and project team are keen to ensure that disruption to residents and users of Buxton Road is kept to a minimum. For instance, the contractor was experiencing problems keeping vehicle wheels clean before they entered the highway and has resurfaced the temporary access road with tarmac to help him to achieve this. This road will be removed at the end of the contract.

Adult care and Alderbrook Day Opportunities

The garden centre is awaiting completion but we are open for business selling a selection of plants and handmade wood products. This valuable resource aims to train people in work based skills through experience. We welcome you to visit and look round.

Linda Scowcroft - Headteacher

Although the nature of the relationship with the residential service will change, the school are committed to continuing the close working which has proved so successful for the disabled young people we work with. I am glad that many of the residential staff will be transferring to the new units and taking their skills and experience with them.

Alex Howlett – District Manager

We have been linking already with OFSTED to arrange the registration of the new services. We will be recruiting some extra staff to work alongside those transferring: a unit manager post is already being advertised and we plan that other jobs will be out soon. Do look at www.derbyshire.gov.uk if you may be interested.

For further information and to give us any feedback contact:

About the building development and consultation on the re-designation - Dee Hill – Sr. Asst. Education Officer (Forward Planning) Development, Tel. 01629 536248
dee.hill@derbyshire.gov.uk

About the new service - Alex Howlett – District Manager Tel 01629-537700
alex.howlett@derbyshire.gov.uk

About disabled children’s short break services more broadly – Mary Wilton - District Manager – Strategy Tel 01629- 538094 mary.wilton@derbyshire.gov.uk

Peak Project Group
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