



GALASHIELS ACADEMY – PHASE 2

PROGRESS UPDATE FOR MEMBERS AND THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

JUNE 2026



This is a progress update on the new Galashiels Academy project, that is being delivered by Scottish Borders Council, in partnership with Hub South East and Morrison Construction.

Project

Following the successful transfer of pupils and staff to the new school, Scottish Borders Council commenced a decant exercise to remove all remaining surplus furniture and equipment from the existing school. They also progressed with the safe disconnection of the existing utility supplies which in turn allowed Morrison Construction to complete the Refurbishment and Demolition Survey of the vacated buildings in advance of progressing with the strip out and demolition works.

Work Completed to Date

Demolition of the redundant buildings is progressing well.

The redevelopment of the old swimming pool site is ongoing with the turning circle due to hand back to the general public by early July.

The car park will be developed for completion in mid-August.



Structural demolition of the existing Academy buildings is ongoing, and the final areas are being cleared of asbestos prior to the structural demolition.



The construction of the sports pitches has commenced.



Upcoming Works

Over the next 12 -16 weeks we will complete the demolition of the existing buildings to clear the site.

Each of the demolition sites continue to have monitoring equipment installed for noise, dust and vibration, to ensure that the works being carried out are in compliance with the regulations and planning conditions.

The works associated with the sports pitches and the tennis courts are ongoing and progressing well.

Asbestos Management

As expected for buildings of this age, intrusive surveys identified asbestos containing materials in several structures scheduled for demolition. All removal work is being carried out by licensed specialists and overseen by consultants and regulatory bodies, including the Health & Safety Executive (HSE) and the Asbestos Removal Contractors Association (ARCA).

The removal process follows strict industry standards and is fully controlled, ensuring the safety of workers and the wider community. Importantly, no action or precautions are required from the public, and all work is being undertaken within regulated containment zones.

Completion

Phase 2 of the Project consists of the demolition of the old school and Galashiels swimming pool, the construction of sports pitches and landscaping works. These works are now programmed to be complete late 2026, due to additional works being instructed.

The temporary fencing in Scott Park – erected to allow the newly seeded areas to establish throughout the spring - will be removed over the summer period once we are satisfied with the maturity of the soft landscaping. This will allow unhindered access across the park.

Community Benefits

We continue to work with Galashiels Academy supporting the Construction Skills course and are looking to work with the Outdoor Education department on a project around the landscaping of areas as of the Project.

Site Contact Details

We will keep you up to date with future planned works.

If you have any comments, questions or concerns relating to construction work, please get in touch with Graeme Lang, Construction Manager at Morrison Construction:

Email: Graeme.lang@morrisonconstruction.co.uk

Safe Environment for all

The safety of the public using Galashiels Academy and Scott Park remains the number one priority for the delivery of the Project. The site boundaries are secure and monitored at all times. Deliveries are planned to avoid the peak times of access for the pupils of the Academy and St Margaret's primary school.

If you spot anything that causes you concern or you think can be improved please contact the site team.

