

## Royal High School Bath

### Project development newsletter



In March 2019 Beard Construction began work to transform the Gatehouse on Charlcombe Lane into a contemporary, new Music School for the Royal High School Bath. This will provide an inspirational space for all girls to enhance their musical education, explore their creativity, and encourage even greater co-curricular participation.



After a short lead in works started on site in mid March. The works are due for completion by the end of the year and a currently on target to achieve this.

The temporary site compound and storage area has been established near the Gatehouse. The building has also been securely fenced off from the school to ensure there is no unauthorised access.

The first activity was to remove all the asbestos containing material from in and around the building. Whilst this had historically been safely bound into the

building fabric the extensive works being undertaken required it all be removed.

The soft strip of all the non-structural items quickly followed. All the floor finishes, skirtings, doors and frames, mechanical and electrical equipment and loose material has been removed.

With the building largely clear areas of the ground floor were removed to provide access in to the void under the floor so the new concrete foundations for the structural steel frame can be constructed. New openings will also be formed through the walls for the air handling equipment intakes and exhaust.

We have also been working closely with Western Power to ensure the electricity supply is upgraded and relocated to provide the energy needed for all of the new facilities that are being created.

Externally the scaffolding has been erected to allow the window replacement and refurbishment to commence. Work will also start on repairing the masonry and render along with the construction of the new dormers on the roof.



Much of the early work is focussed in the roof space and in the undercroft below the ground floor. Both these spaces will contain much of the structural support required to remove the walls along with the mechanical and electrical equipment for the building.

The roof has been an occasional bat roost and an ecologist ensured there were none in residence before work commenced. A new roost will of course be incorporated in the completed building to welcome them back.

Below the ground floor the foundations have been concreted. This will provide a base for the new steel frame that will support the roof and floors in the new more open plan layout.