

West Yorkshire CAMHS Unit Update



Leeds Community Healthcare NHS Trust

Leeds and York Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

July 2020

If you'd like to know more about the CAMHS Unit please contact: communications.lypft@nhs.net

Twitter: @LeedsandYorkPFT / @LCHNHSTrust / @Interserve

Or visit: <https://www.leedscommunityhealthcare.nhs.uk/our-news/developments/>

Welcome to the first West Yorkshire Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Unit Update!

In this new look bi-monthly newsletter we'll keep you up to date on the development of the brand new, state of the art, mental health unit for children and young people in West Yorkshire.

As this is the first edition, we want to give you a bit of background to this exciting project.

At the moment, some children in West Yorkshire are receiving inpatient care many miles from home and their loved ones which can hinder their progress and recovery. With this in mind, the West Yorkshire and Harrogate Mental Health Collaborative (a group of mental health trusts in the area) have been working closely together to develop a better way of providing care and treatment for young people with complex mental health issues.

One huge and important step is the development of a new mental health unit for children and young people on the St Mary's Hospital site in

Armley, Leeds - due to open September 2021.

The unit will provide specialist care in therapeutic areas, including a multi-purpose activity room, educational facilities, a family visiting room and a leafy communal area outside. There will also be a health-based place of safety in the unit for young people in crisis and in need of urgent help. Young people are at the heart of this project and have been involved in the design from the beginning, and they'll soon be the ones to name the new unit too.

Read on to find out the latest developments from site, and what's coming up soon.



Artist's impression of the new unit from the rear garden

What's happening on site?

- All six of the existing buildings on site have now been safely demolished.
- Works on the foundations for the new building are now around 90% complete.
- We have established a new site welfare area within the new car park.
- Work on the steel frame for the new building is now underway, we have a crane on site helping to lift the steel into position.
- We have completed the surface water drainage connection into the hospital road and works on the new building drainage is underway.
- Further tarmac has been laid in the car park area.



What's coming up?

- We will be continuing the erection of the steel frame for the new building.
- The work on the steel frame is expected to be completed at the end of July. Watch this space for photos from an event to mark this milestone.
- Work on the blockwork and brickwork will be ongoing.
- We will be installing the structural framing system (SFS) and boarding to create an air-tight facade around the building. The brickwork and cladding will then follow once this is complete.
- We will be completing the drainage works for the new building and connections into the existing system.
- The CAMHS team are working with service users to name the new unit - look out for an announcement soon.



Take a trip inside the new unit

Architect Gilling Dod have produced a fantastic video giving a sneak peek into how the new unit will look when complete. Visit Leeds Community Healthcare's [YouTube page](#) to watch the short film. You'll be able to see the impressive figure 8 shape of the building, with communal areas both inside and out, and get a feel for the modern, light and airy design.



NHS EXECS ON SITE

On Thursday 21 May Dr. Sara Munro, chief executive and Dawn Hanwell, chief financial officer for Leeds and York Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, were joined by Turlough Mills, clinical lead for the new CAMHS unit and Bryan Machin the executive director of finance and resources for Leeds Community Healthcare Trust, for a tour of the site and to see the progress so far.