

Nottingham University Samworth Academy in Bilborough

Nottingham City Council and the Nottingham University Samworth Academy Trust have signed a Development Agreement to build a new Academy for 950 pupils aged between 11 and 18 years in Bilborough.

Full planning permission for the Academy was received in January 2008 and early construction work started in the summer of 2008. The Development Agreement sets out the legal agreements between the City Council and the Academy Trust to complete the work. The Local Education Partnership (LEP) established through the City Council's Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme is constructing the new Academy.

Nottingham City Council is working with the LEP and Academy Sponsors to ensure that the new Academy is built to the highest possible standard. There is collective commitment to deliver a high quality building, fit for the 21st century that will benefit children and young people in the Aspley / Bilborough area for many years to come.

Councillor David Mellen, Nottingham City Council's Portfolio holder for Children's Services, said: "The signing of the agreement is a positive step forward towards our ambition to improve educational provision for children in Aspley and Bilborough and provide facilities that will benefit the whole school community."

As with all schools, the Academy will aim to help all of its pupils to get the most out of their years at school and provide them with the skills and confidence they need to secure a successful future. But the Academy will be different in a number of ways. For example:

- it will be an independent school funded directly by the government;
- local businessman David Samworth and the University of Nottingham as co-sponsors are jointly investing a wealth of experience and expertise in the Academy;
- it will have its own charitable trust;
- the Academy will specialise in Health and Science; and
- it will work with the community to ensure that everyone who lives locally can benefit from its resources and support.

The transformational experience for pupils will begin in September 2009 when the Academy becomes operational in the existing William Sharp School buildings under the management of the newly appointed Principal David Harris and his senior leadership team. The Academy is expected to be fully open in its new building from September 2010.

