

# FUTURE



## WELCOME

to issue 3 of Hertfordshire's BSF Newsletter

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BSF has entered an exciting stage as architects work with Stevenage schools to create design briefs from their visions for education. Over 700 people responded to the public consultation on the Review of Stevenage secondary schools - every response received was read

very carefully and presented in a report to Councillors. You can view the report and outcomes of the Council meetings by visiting [www.hertsdirect.org/csconsultations](http://www.hertsdirect.org/csconsultations). Thank you to everyone who gave us their views. **Lindsay Martin, BSF Programme Director**

### BSF is short for...

*Building Schools for the Future is a Government investment in secondary school estates to transform the learning experience of children. Funding will be rolled out across Hertfordshire over the next 10 - 15 years starting in Stevenage. The money will be used to renew, refurbish or rebuild the town's schools. Please visit our website for BSF news and updates. [www.hertsdirect.org/bsf](http://www.hertsdirect.org/bsf)*





# FROM VISION TO REALITY

**EVERY SECONDARY AND SECONDARY SPECIAL SCHOOL IN STEVENAGE NOW HAS A STRATEGY FOR CHANGE – THE NEXT STEP IN TRANSLATING THE HERTFORDSHIRE VISION FOR EDUCATION INTO LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS.**

**Architects from Hawkins\Brown, AStudio and Bryden Wood Associates - each with a reputation for creating innovative designs within the education sector, have met the Stevenage heads and representatives from governors, parents and pupils. The resulting architectural brief will form the basis of the business case for choosing private sector partners to design and build or remodel the schools.**



**AART KONING** from AStudio has been working closely with five of the schools. His expertise is gained from eight years designing both schools and higher education projects.

“It was important to all the schools we met with that we started from their key aspirations – we are now in the process of helping to translate them into ideas of how the school buildings and accommodation will look and feel and how the children will learn. This may mean providing a mix of learning spaces to promote independent learning and flexible spaces for an extended school environment that will embrace community use.

The pupils feel very strongly about having a variety of social spaces in the school to enable them to learn with their mates – perhaps even an internet café for those who wanted to come in early or stay late to do their homework. If you look at some museums they often have bookshops and coffee shops in their communal areas where people can continue to learn and interact with their peers. Flexible learning space makes it easier for teachers to look at



## Update on the timetable for Stevenage

### Autumn 2007

Hertfordshire's Strategy for Change Part 2 has been submitted to the DCSF. This sets out detailed plans for transforming education in Stevenage and is available on our website.

### Spring 2008

The procurement process begins with the approval of the outline business case by the DCSF. This must be submitted in March 2008 and will include detailed estate and building options.

### Late 2009

Building work is expected to start.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

To contact a member of the BSF team: please call **01992 555869** or email [bsf@hertscc.gov.uk](mailto:bsf@hertscc.gov.uk)

For further information on Building Schools for the Future please visit:  
[www.hertsdirect.org/bsf](http://www.hertsdirect.org/bsf)



This newsletter is produced by Sharon Robinson, Hertfordshire County Council, Children, Schools and Families Communications. Please email any feedback or contributions to [sharon.robinson@hertscc.gov.uk](mailto:sharon.robinson@hertscc.gov.uk)  
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## CABE

Hertfordshire is supported by Chris French, our CABE enabler, an independent architect employed by the Government's Department for Children Schools and Families. CABE is an organisation that provides advice and support to ensure that every new or refurbished secondary school is built to the highest quality design. Chris will provide his expert, practical advice on how we can create places that are safe, beautiful and efficient to run. You can read more about CABE at [www.cabe.org.uk](http://www.cabe.org.uk).

## THE NEXT STEP

The next stage is to test the viability of each scheme and to consider things like cost, town planning and highways assessments, sustainability and facilities management.

The procurement process will start with the appointment of a private sector partner to form a Local Education Partnership which will undertake the delivery of the building, ICT and some Facilities Management services for the BSF programme.



## *Joinedupdesignforschools*

Joinedupdesignforschools is an idea by the Sorrell Foundation that explores how good design can improve the quality of life in schools by listening to the pupils. It inspires pupils by putting them in the driving seat and giving them control and responsibility as clients.

The Sorrell Foundation has invited up to 50 children from Stevenage BSF schools to work on a project with architects to develop a design brief for the new or remodelled schools. They will survey their fellow pupils so they can incorporate the things that are really important to their school.

The process kicks off with 'The Challenge' at the Young Design Centre in Somerset House. The Centre includes an exciting interactive exhibition to explore what's next for schools in Britain, and to inspire everyone involved in renewing school environments.