

JULY 2023

WILLIE MACKIE FUTURE SKILLS HUB

This is the Spring/Summer update on the Willie Mackie Future Skills Hub in Kilwinning, you can still [read the Winter update from January 2023](#).

The Future Skills Hub in Kilwinning is an exciting campus development project for the College which is currently under construction on the site of our North Ayrshire Kilwinning Campus and due to open for the 2023/24 academic session.

The low-carbon two-storey building will provide a flexible learning space that can respond to emerging technologies as we upskill the workforce of the future in Engineering, Construction and SMART Technologies. The College facility will be supported by green technologies using air-source heat pumps for the building's heating systems.

The Future Skills Hub will replace the College's existing workshop facilities at Nethermains and enable the College to offer a dynamic and flexible curriculum aligned to the needs of local and national skills priorities. The development has been designed by Hunter Thomson Architects and construction is handled by Ashleigh (Scotland) Ltd.

PROGRESS UPDATE

Our drone has captured more incredible footage to highlight the progress made up to April 2023.

Since then, construction has now progressed to mechanical and electrical installation and decorating. Almost there!



WHAT'S HAPPENED SINCE JANUARY?

The Ayrshire College curriculum staff who will be using this space from Autumn 2023 have been treated to their **first tours of the site**. There have since been a number of tours to ensure staff members who will be accessing the building in 2023/24 have been offered the opportunity to see the space beforehand and to familiarise themselves with the building.

As previously mentioned, Ashleigh (Scotland) Ltd planned to select two joinery students for work placements in January 2023. We were delighted to see **students Emma MacWhinney and Lee Gray embark on joinery work experience programmes** at the Green Street development in Saltcoats, throughout February and March. Thanks to everyone involved in giving Ayrshire College access to this fantastic opportunity.



Training on all building services and equipment at the Future Skills Hub will take place for staff on return after the summer break.

Planning is also well underway for the **Willie Mackie Future Skills Hub** opening event, due to take place in September 2023. This will be an invite-only event for sponsors, contractors, and guests of the College, with save the dates due shortly.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We'd like to finish this update by once again thanking the following partners, project sponsors, and stakeholders involved in the Willie Mackie Future Skills Hub. Their commitment, hard work and planning has resulted in the creation of a first class facility at the Kilwinning Campus.



Thanks also to our stakeholders in the community for your continued engagement and feedback including: Residents of Caley House, Bridge Church, Kilwinning Bowling Club, the wider local community of Kilwinning and also to subcontractors and suppliers.



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