## **Nairn Academy**

# **Stakeholder Group Meeting No. 4**

**Project Update** 

17<sup>th</sup> February 2022

**Robert Campbell, Estate Strategy Manager** 

#### **Recent Progress**

- Report on the review of Capital Programme approved at the Council meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> December.
- Finalisation of the accommodation schedule, taking account of updated 15-year school roll forecasts and Housing Land Audit information; this included a detailed assessment of the requirements for individual subjects and the potential impact of any increase in school roll.
- Further development of the expansion strategy; the building is designed so that it can be extended to provide some additional capacity, with a separate zone on the campus for a substantial extension block if required at any point in the future.
- A programme has been submitted by Balfour Beatty which shows a completion date for the new building of October 2025.

### **Academy Update**

- Sarah linking with HC reps around rooming requirements
- Julie has attended a meeting with other HTs and HC reps on practical class specs e.g. Home Economics, Technology, Music.
- Julie and Sharon Sharkey have visited Bertha Park in Perth and Jedburgh Community Campus (Keri joined us at Jedburgh). Sarah and HC reps visiting Jedburgh next week
- Pupil Council been updated and shared the fly through of new Alness
  Academy as well some photos of other builds. Looking to take a mini bus
  to Alness once safe to do so.
- Sarah and Julie met with Balfour Beatty reps to assess the ground.
- Last week school survey took place.
- This week Geosurvey and initial ground work (Higher Geography class took part in this). Archaeologists also involved.
- Looking at construction course for pupils next year in conjunction with Balfour Beatty.
- Regular updates to staff at weekly briefings.

#### **Site Selection**

- The decision to locate the new building on the existing Academy campus took account of a number of factors.
- After much lobbying, the Council agreed in August 2019 that the project would be included in the next funding bid to Scottish Government.
- SG announced in December 2020 that it was in Phase 2 of the Learning Estate Investment Programme, with a completion deadline of Dec. 2025.
- The LEIP model involves SG revenue funding for 25 years after handover; the Council provides all the capital funding, this was approved in Jan. 2021.
- The relocation of the Academy to another site would require a lengthy statutory consultation process, and the acquisition of land. Both of these would have put at risk the 2025 deadline, the opportunity to access the LEIP funding, and the much needed replacement of the buildings.
- There is ample space on the existing site to accommodate both a new building and significant expansion in the future. This approach has been successfully adopted on numerous new build projects.