Welcome to this public exhibition about proposals for the redevelopment of the Acton College site. It is our aim to deliver a brand new 1,200 place secondary school which will include a 300 place sixth form, along with new homes.

This exhibition is part of a wider programme of consultation and engagement with local communities, residents and businesses and provides you with an opportunity to:

1. View and comment on our design proposals for the secondary school, sixth form and new homes.
2. Feedback on and find out more about Ark’s proposal to open Ark Soane Academy and its proposed admissions arrangements.

We would like to hear your views about our plans, so that we can take these into account before we submit a planning application at the end of this year.

Members of the project team are on hand should you have any questions and you can also view these materials online at www.actoncollegeconsultation.co.uk.

There are a number of ways for you to leave your feedback – either fill in a comments card and drop it into the comments box or you can also comment on our website, via email www.actoncollege@londoncommunications.co.uk or by Freephone 0800 307 7264.

The Team

LocatED
The planning application for this site is being developed by LocatED, the Department for Education’s property company responsible for acquiring land and buildings for free school sites across England.

Ark
Ark will run the new secondary school and sixth form – to be called Ark Soane Academy.

Architecture Initiative
Architecture Initiative has a proven track record of successfully designing similar schemes that mix schools with homes, including Fulham Boys School and GEMS Primary Academy in Kingston.

JLL
Planning Consultant

Robert West
Transport Consultant

London Communications Agency
Public Consultation
About Ark

Ark is an international charity, transforming lives through education.

We exist to make sure that every young person, regardless of their background, has access to a great education and real choices in life.

We have a network of 35 high-achieving schools in the UK and one primary school in Delhi, India.

Ten of our schools are brand new, the others are existing schools that have joined our network.

Community

We want our schools to be a valuable part of the areas they serve. We have been working closely with the Local Authority to create a proposal for a school, of which everyone in the community can be proud.

Why choose an Ark school for your child?

• The school will have exceptionally high aspirations and expectations for your child.

• Ark has a proven track record of creating excellent schools and has some of the best schools in the country.

• The school will have a brand new building.

• Your child will receive excellent support with Maths and English, through programmes including Maths Mastery.

• Your child will receive excellent opportunities outside of the classroom, such as our annual music gala, and regular trips, shared sports days and competitions.

Ark’s six pillars

All Ark schools follow six key principles:

• High expectations every child can achieve great things. That’s why we set exceptionally high expectations for all our pupils, and we do whatever it takes to meet them.

• Exemplary behaviour we create a respectful, orderly environment where teachers can focus on teaching and students can focus on learning.

• Excellent teaching we help our staff to be the best they can be through our excellent training offer, which includes twice as many training days as standard.

• Depth before breadth when children build firm foundations in English and maths, they find it easier to do well in other subjects too. That’s why we prioritise these subjects, giving pupils the best chance of success.

• More time for learning to make sure children have enough time both for core subjects and for extra-curricular activities, many of our schools run a longer school day.

• Knowing every child we make sure every student knows, and is known, by the adults in their school.
Ark Soane Academy

Ark Soane Academy will be a secondary school with six forms of entry (classes) in each year and a 300 place sixth form.

Secondary school need
Ealing Council predicts a thirteen form entry shortfall in secondary school places in September 2019. Ark Soane will help meet this significant need, with almost half of the required places.

Admissions
The school will be non-denominational, non-selective and mixed, serving local children.

Subject to planning permission, Ark Soane Academy will open in September 2019 with 180 year 7 places. The school will reach its capacity of 1,200, including sixth form, in 2025.

If the school is oversubscribed, applications will be considered for the following:

• Looked After Children.

• Children of staff where there is a demonstrable skills shortage.

• Children with siblings already at the school.

• Children of staff who have worked at the school for at least two years.

• Straight line distance – one-third of remaining places will be offered to those living closest to the school; two-thirds will be offered to those living closest to the Acton Town Hall.

Extending our relationship in Ealing
Like all our schools, we hope Ark Soane will play an active role in our family of Ealing schools, including our two primaries in Acton, Ark Priory Primary and Ark Byron Primary. We are eager to work in partnership with other local schools and the local authority to build on this success in the local community.

Governance
Each Ark school has its own Local Governing Body consisting of:

• The school’s Executive Principal.

• A parent.

• A local authority nominee.

• A member of teaching staff.

• A member of support staff.

• Ark nominees.

Our governing bodies work alongside the school leadership team to drive the vision and ethos of the school, monitor educational and financial plans, and provide support tailored to their priorities.

For more information about Ark, please visit [www.arksoane.org](http://www.arksoane.org).
**The Site**

In 2016, LocatED purchased the Acton College site which means that the site will remain largely in educational and community use following the College's departure in 2018.

The site includes the 1960s-built College building, which is outdated and would provide a very poor quality school environment if it was simply refurbished. We are therefore proposing to demolish the existing College building on the site as well as the two storey entrance building on Gunnersbury Lane and the one-storey entrance building on Mill Hill Road.

We will be retaining the locally-listed Woodlands Building and improving its setting. This building is used by a Special Educational Needs school who will remain in place and support our proposals for the site.

**Surrounding Area**

The site is close to Acton High Street and has excellent public transport accessibility. Large sites such as this are expected to deliver a mix of different activities when they are redeveloped, in this case a new school as well as homes.

The site is not within a conservation area, but the Acton Town Centre Conservation Area is immediately to the north and the Mill Hill Park Conservation Area to the south. There are also a number of local heritage assets around the site. This has been taken into consideration and has informed our approach to the design of these proposals.
Our Proposals

The plans will rearrange how the buildings fit within the site, delivering a purpose-built secondary school and sixth form over three levels with new homes above. The site plan below shows the key principles of how the different activities on the site could be arranged.

1 Core educational facilities
   - General teaching classrooms
   - Specialist classrooms
   - Staff/support services
   - Dining Hall

2 Other school facilities
   - Theatre
   - Learning Resource Centre
   - Music rooms
   - Drama rooms

3 Indoor sports facilities
   - Sports hall
   - Activity Studio
   - Changing facilities

4 Outdoor sports facilities
   - Multi-use games pitches
   - External play area
   - Total of 3,615m2 of external play/sports areas

5 Main entrance for secondary school and sixth form

6 New route between Mill Hill Road and Woodlands Avenue
   - Mainly for pedestrians and cyclists
   - Controlled access for low-level residents and school parking as well as servicing

7 Residents’ entrance
   - Around 100 homes above the school
   - Residents will enter via Woodlands Avenue and Mill Hill Road

8 Underground parking
   - Staff and school parking on ground level
   - 27 resident parking spaces in the basement

9 Improved relationship with Woodlands Park
   - Removing the fencing
   - Blending the landscaping between our site and the park
   - Greater public access will lead to passive surveillance and greater local activity which will improve safety and security

10 New townhouse on Mill Hill Road
   - Completing the street in this location

11 Improved planting on the site’s boundaries
   - Retaining and adding more trees and planting to act as a buffer
   - Mitigating any impact on our neighbours
Our Proposals – The School

This display provides further information about the facilities for the new secondary school and sixth form.

Community use
Ark welcomes the opportunity to work more closely with the community and is excited about exploring the possibilities of making a number of the school facilities available to local residents.

We anticipate that this will include sports facilities, the Multi-Use Games Area and the indoor sports hall.

Ark often works with local groups, such as sports clubs, to ensure that community usage at their schools is successful.
Our Proposals – The School

Typical floor plans for the new school and sixth form are displayed below.
Our Proposals – New Homes

Large sites like this one, close to the High Street and with excellent access to public transport, are expected to deliver a mix of different activities especially new homes.

We are therefore proposing to build around 100 new homes above the secondary school and sixth form, which is a common occurrence where new schools are being built in London.

These new homes will include a mixture of market and affordable homes. They will be a mix of one, two and three bedroom apartments, each with access to private balconies and other outdoor amenity space.
We have met with Ealing Council Planning Officers to discuss our design proposals for the site and have carefully considered our relationship with our neighbours.

We believe that a 12 storey building in the centre of our site, furthest away from our neighbours, is the right choice in this location.

The buildings will then reduce in height closer to the boundaries with our neighbours – as you can see in the proposed East elevation diagram above.

These buildings will be set well away from our boundary and there will be large planted buffers, featuring new and retained trees, that will minimise any impact from the new homes above the school.

Our proposals will improve the appearance of the site considerably.
Materials

We are proposing high quality, durable materials, sympathetic to the surrounding environment and designed to respond to and complement both the historical and emerging architecture of the local area.

The identity of the school and sixth form will have a distinct visual appearance to that of the homes.

PRECEDENT IMAGES
1. FibreC formparts cladding facade screening
2. Glass rear wall Mixed car interior, Libertà concept
3. Dark brick facade
4. Panelised facade system creating depth through texture and layers
5. Expressed glass lift facade detail
6. GRC Panels facade cladding material
7. FibreC formparts cladding facade
8. GRC Panels facade cladding material
9. Schindler lift - glass rear wall
10. Glass balustrade to rear balcony
11. FibreC formparts cladding
Transport and Access

As a secondary school and sixth form, it is likely that the majority of pupils will travel on public transport, walk or cycle.

The area already has excellent links to buses, London Underground/Overground, and trains, as we expect most staff, pupils, and visitors to use these routes.

As this will be a low-car scheme, there will be limited car parking spaces available for residents and staff.

Cycle spaces will be provided for students, staff, visitors and residents in accordance with the London Plan.

School and sixth form:

- The main point of access and exit for pupils, staff and visitors will be via the main school entrance on Gunnersbury Lane.
- 5 car parking spaces for staff and 2 mini-bus spaces.
- Servicing and refuse for the school will access the site from Woodlands Avenue.

Homes:

- The new homes will be completely separate from the school, with separate entrances on the new route that will be created within the site.
- 27 car parking spaces for residents located within the basement of the building, including 10 spaces for disabled residents.
- Access to limited parking for residents will be from Mill Hill Road.

A Delivery and Servicing Plan which will set out measures to actively manage and control all servicing activity associated with the housing, school and sixth form will be submitted with the planning application.
Feedback and Next Steps

Thank you for taking the time to visit our public exhibition, we hope you have found this information helpful.

We believe our proposals will deliver the following benefits for local communities:

- **A new 1,200 place secondary school including a 300 place sixth form, open to all, that will meet a strong need for school places by September 2019.**
- **New sports and other facilities that could be used by the community outside of school hours.**
- **Around 100 new homes, including affordable and market sale homes.**
- **Improvements to Woodlands Park.**
- **A new pedestrian and cycle route through the site, linking the High Street and Mill Hill Road.**
- **New planting and trees around the site, including attractive green buffers next to our neighbours.**

**We would welcome your views on the proposals. You can:**

- Complete a comments card here today and pop it in the box provided.
- Email us at actoncollege@londoncommunications.co.uk
- Call our freephone consultation line on 0800 307 7264.

The content of these boards is also available to view on our dedicated consultation website www.actoncollegeconsultation.co.uk.

**Project timeline**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>December 2017</th>
<th>Spring 2018</th>
<th>Autumn 2018</th>
<th>September 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Planning application submission.</td>
<td>Target planning decision</td>
<td>Construction starts</td>
<td>Secondary school and sixth form opens First Year 7 intake</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Following this exhibition we will be collating all the feedback received to inform our planning application, which we intend to submit to Ealing Council at the end of this year.

**Ark**

Ark is also now consulting on the proposal to open Ark Soane Academy and the admissions into the school. Feedback forms for this consultation are available here today as well so please do pop it in the box provided.

Ark’s consultation will run until 4 December 2017. Further information about the consultation is available at www.arksoane.org/consultations.

To find out more about Ark, please visit www.arksoane.org.