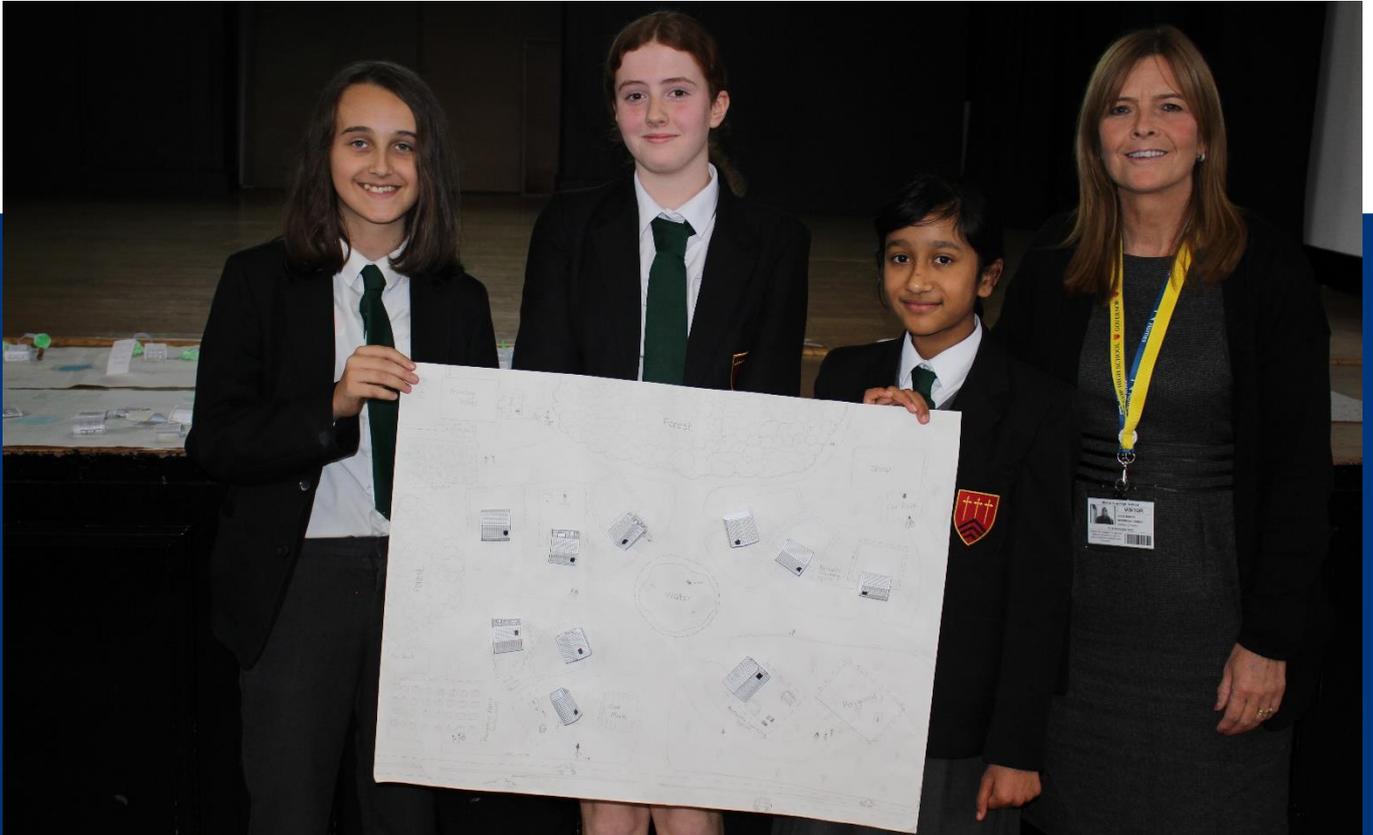


PLAN, DESIGN, BUILD BACK GREENER

Supporting schools



Keepmoat recently delivered their Plan, design, build back greener (PDBBG) careers activity for year eight students from Meols cop as part of their Build My Future Careers Journey at school. This week we returned to the school to judge the students designs, choosing an overall winner.

The programme is designed to help students understand the variety of career opportunities the construction industry has to offer whilst promoting an array of employability skills including teamwork, communication, budgeting, and presentation skills.

The programme includes an introduction to Keepmoat Homes, the construction industry, and an introduction to the activity. Once briefed the students work in small teams to not only design a development which includes 3d model houses, they must include eco-friendly options whilst thinking how they can improve the environment surrounding their development.

Throughout the activity students were joined virtually by Keepmoat staff members who give an overview of their role at Keepmoat and their progression routes before offering the teams advice and guidance on their design and costings.

The session was also supported by Michael Harper (Construction Lead) at Southport College and two of his students currently studying the CSA T level who are former Meols Cop students! They supported students throughout the day with their planning and as a collective they chose 8 finalists to go through to the presentations with Keepmoat.



The activity

Plan design build back greener is a team activity looking at the impact of housing developments on the environment and the community. Participants design and produce a model layout of a sustainable, mixed housing development, as well as producing a tender document and presenting their ideas.

The aims of the activity

To encourage students to consider some of the key themes involved in planning and designing a sustainable housing development design, raise awareness of some of the professional and management careers in construction, whilst raising awareness of key employability skills including teamwork, time management, finance, and presentation skills.

The budget

Students must produce a financial tender showing their team's costs and a profit forecast of between 10% and 25%, with the aim of making a good profit whilst keeping the price of the homes reasonable.

Things to consider

There are several things the students must consider including access to the development and the homes, parking, including public open space such as parks or playing fields, there is a gravel pit full of water in the middle of the land, there is a wooded area and there are some busy roads surrounding the land.

Presentation

At the end of the session the students must present their design, tender and reasoning to keepmoat homes staff and all members of the group must be involved

Quotes from students

"What a day, I loved every moment of it and I learnt so much about jobs in construction. I now know it's not all about brick layers but there are other jobs I can do as well"

"I loved designing and thinking about the sustainability of the housing development, and I want to know more about how I can do this as a job!"

"My favourite part was working together to design and cost the development, I got to know some of my class better and it helped me be more confident"

Quotes from parents

"Thank you so much for giving my son this opportunity he has spent a lot of time planning and designing, and it's created lots of discussion at home"

"I am amazed watching my daughter stand at the front and talk in front of all these people and she will be so happy with herself"

Quote from tutor

It was a privilege to work with Julie and her team to deliver something incredible for our students. It was accessible for all and seeing students work as a collaborative to create these wonderful designs whilst thinking about the impact on the environment has been a pleasure. We're always looking for ways to inspire our students and this was the perfect opportunity so thank you to Keepmoat Homes and Speakers for Schools for supporting us. We now have an army of Year 8s heading into the construction industry! Watch this space!

