



Dover District Leisure Centre

August 2018



New Dover District Leisure Centre news

WELCOME to the third edition of our newsletter keeping you up-to-date with the district's exciting new leisure centre.



Topping out

The structural build of the new £26m Dover District Leisure Centre is complete! The construction milestone was celebrated on 26 July with a ceremony attended by Cllr Keith Morris, Leader of Dover District Council; Adam Mitchell for builder BAM Construction; Paolo Coyle for architects GT3; Tony Crafer, Contract Manager for operators, Places Leisure, along with members of the construction team. Construction is on time and on budget with a planned opening early in 2019.



Keeping it local

Local people and contractors are playing a key role in building the new leisure centre. There are now over 100 construction workers on site, including six apprentices. Over 55% of total order values have been placed with Kent-based contractors





A first for Kent

One of the key features of the new leisure centre is the short-course county standard championship swimming pool, the first of its kind in Kent. The 25m x 17m pool will have 8 x 2m racing lanes, starting blocks and touchpads linked to a high-spec LED scoreboard and display. Along with tiered spectator seating for 250 people it will be a prime venue for top level swimming galas.

Safety first

Pool safety is the number one priority. Along with a team of qualified lifeguards from operators, Places Leisure, both pools feature a Poolview camera system to give the lifeguards a full picture of what is happening both above and under the water.

Moving experience for learners

The new leisure centre also offers an enhanced experience for those learning to swim. The 15m x 8.5m learner pool features a moveable floor, allowing the depth to be varied from a few centimetres to 1.4m and allowing for a wide programme of use, including as a swimming warm-down pool.

Accessible swimming for all



The new £26m Dover District Leisure Centre will be the first swimming pool in Kent to feature poolpod platform lifts, designed as a legacy of the 2012 London Olympics and Paralympics to improve pool access for people with disabilities and

the less mobile. They will be fitted in both the competition standard swimming pool and learner pool.

The easy-to-use poolpod allows people to enter the pool via a submersible and mobile pool platform, operated by users themselves with an electronic wristband. Users can remain standing as they enter the pool, or use the custom submersible wheelchair which allows users to transfer from their own wheelchair in the privacy of the changing room. The platform takes around 20 seconds to enter the water, features three and five point harnesses, and can be stowed neatly at the side of the pool.

The new leisure centre will also feature improvements to accessible changing facilities for pool users.



A sports hall for all

The 690m² four court sports hall is designed to the latest Sport England specification with the principal play area and run-off spaces able to accommodate a wide range of club and community-based sports and leisure activities, including badminton, basketball, cheerleading, gymnastics, netball, and volleyball. There will also be two glass-backed squash courts with spectator seating, and two outdoor 3G pitches for five-a-side football.

Let's get physical



The new leisure centre will feature the largest health and fitness suite in the Dover district! With 120 pieces of gym equipment and personal trainers on hand to help with your fitness goals, there's no excuse not to get fit! The gym will feature

state-of-the-art equipment from Technogym for cardio and strength workouts. For those looking for classes and group exercises there will also be a spin studio along with two multi-purpose studios.

Reaching new heights

Providing a 'wow' factor in the glazed entrance to the new leisure centre will be Clip 'n' Climb featuring easy, reassuring and fun climb challenges for everyone from age four upwards. The colourful and vibrant climbing arena features 16 climb challenges including the Big Cheese, Astroball, Speed Climb, Leap of Faith, Twister and Stairway to Heaven!



“Fitness and fun.”

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