

Mapledurham Playing Fields: Frequently Asked Questions

What work is taking place at Mapledurham Playing Fields?

There are two separate pieces of work taking place.

- Kier Construction Ltd is building the new Heights Primary School. Kier is carrying out this work on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE).
- Reading Borough Council is making improvements to the Mapledurham playing fields (MPF) as part of a Landscape Plan to improve facilities for users of the playing fields.

When will work begin?

Kier's works (on behalf of the DfE) are now due to begin the end of August / early September 2019. Kier will start by making improvements to the MPF car park. They aim to have completed a 'base course' in the car park by October 2019. The final surface finish and line marking will then be completed in summer 2020. Kier will then begin actual construction of the new Heights Primary School building once the initial car park works are complete.

Agripower Ltd (on behalf of Reading Borough Council) started work in July 2019 on making improvements to the sports pitches on Mapledurham Playing Fields with the aim to complete the work by seeding the new pitches in October 2019. Temporary Heras fencing around the new pitches will remain in place throughout late autumn 2019 until the new grass is established and has had its first cut. Once this is done the fencing will then be removed.

In July 2019 works to the western side perimeter footpath were completed.

In September 2019 works to provide the new play area will start and is due to open at the end of October 2019 for the October half term holiday week.

Will I be able to use the car park whilst Kier's works take place?

Yes, but it is important to know that there will be limited spaces. Kier's works will be carried out in phases so that some of the parking spaces remain open for public use. Please see the Kier site notice boards for its works phasing plan.

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Will there be any other disruption?

The timing of Kier's car park works mean that Agripower's larger machinery is unable to access the MPF car park road or receive delivery of landscaping materials to the playing fields site through the MPF car park. In order for this work to take place, a temporary access route to the playing fields has had to be created from Hewitt Avenue. This requires the temporary closure of footpath no43 at the top of Hewett Avenue and a temporary 'no waiting at any time' on the section of road opposite the footpath. It is important to note that this footpath will only be closed on days that Agripower have to make deliveries of landscaping machinery or materials to the playing fields.

Will I be able to use the playing fields whilst the works take place?

Yes. Areas not sectioned off for the grass pitch improvements works, new children's play area and perimeter footpath works will be accessible for dog walking and for informal recreation.

When will the new sports pitches be ready for football?

Once the new grass has been established and has had its first cuts, it can be walked on. We expect to lay secondary sand grooves drainage (weather permitting) next April / May 2020. The aim is for football matches can take place on the new pitches by September 2020.

When will the new footpaths and trim trail be open for use?

The western side perimeter footpath was installed in July 2019. We aim is to install, weather permitting, the central avenue footpath, footpath lights and trim trail units April / May 2020, so that it is fully ready for use in the Summer (2020).

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Where can I find more information about the Council's landscape works?

Please visit <http://www.reading.gov.uk/article/7075/Mapledurham-Playing-Fields-and-Pavilion>. We have set up a dedicated email address for all enquiries relating to the landscape improvement works. Please email mpfenquiries@reading.gov.uk

Please note: This is the contact address for queries relating to the Council's landscaping works only. For all public enquiries relating to the Kier's construction of the Heights Primary School, please see alternative contact details immediately below.

Who do I contact with any questions or comments relating to Kier's construction of the Heights Primary School?

Please see the Kier site notice boards, speak directly to the site manager or visit the school webpage on <http://www.theheightsprimary.co.uk/>

For questions or comments on the school construction works please contact the Kier project manager, John Hempton on John.Hempton2@kier.co.uk or On his mobile 07720681138.

When will the Pavilion be refurbished?

The actual construction work has been dependant on the £1.36m from the DfE which has now been received by the Trustees. In the interim a local architect has been appointed and initial design work started with community representatives In July / August 2019. Detailed design work will now continue with a final design to be approved by Trustees. This is dependent on all parties agreeing on the detailed pavilion design, planning approval and procuring a contractor within a short timeframe. If we receive the necessary approvals and have a contractor on board, we would look to start work in February 2020.

Where do we find more information about the Community Use Agreement?

Please visit:

<https://democracy.reading.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CIId=175&MIId=3148&Ver=4>