

Pupils mark new stage of £3.7bn development

Work underway to build homes and school

by Luke Jacobs

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Work has started on another part of the £3.7-billion Canning Town and Custom House regeneration scheme.

Children from Keir Hardie Primary School gathered to “break ground” to mark the landmark step at the spot in Fife Road where the first of six phases will be completed by January 2013.

It consists of 102 private and 37 affordable homes with the first residents already moved into East Point.

The contract to build a new Keir Hardie school has been put out to tender. Its teaching facilities will cater for 480 children aged between three and 11. Work will start in January.

Newham Cllr Conor McAuley said: “London is moving east and the regeneration work being carried out in Canning Town is an excellent example of this.

‘Vision’

“Our vision for the area is to add to the strengths of the established community as well as ensuring it is vibrant

and economically and socially resilient.”

In total, the six phases will deliver 649 homes, of which 422 are for private sale and 227 classed as affordable.

Richard Cherry, from developers Countryside Properties, said: “We have already seen great interest in the new homes currently under construction.

“They have sold well and prove that demand in the area is strong.”

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■ Cllr Conor McAuley, Richard Cherry, Michelle Reynolds with children from Keir Hardie Primary School

Photo Andrew Baker