



Mayor opens rebuilt Keir Hardie School

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The Mayor of Newham officially opened the rebuilt Keir Hardie Primary School in Canning Town today.



The new school building in Robertson Road was redeveloped by Countryside as part of the East City Point development and includes a new school building, with a rooftop garden, a multi-use games area and a state of the art dance studio.

The redeveloped school is part of the £3.7billion regeneration project for the Canning Town and Custom House area, and the new facilities will be available to residents during evenings and weekends.

The school, which includes a children's centre, can accommodate up to 420 pupils, providing a valuable facility for the established community as well as new families moving into the regeneration area.

Mayor of Newham Sir Robin Wales, planted a tree in the school grounds to mark the official opening. He said: "The new school building is impressive and it is clear that the children are enjoying learning in a modern educational environment.

"This school is an asset to the community and has been a crucial element of our regeneration of Canning Town. I hope that this new school building along with its namesake serves as an inspiration to the children who learn in these classrooms."

Countryside, the developers for East City Point, provided the £7.38million for the cost of the

new school.

Violet Otieno, headteacher of the school, said: “The pupils, staff, parents and governors feel very privileged and proud of the fantastic learning facilities in our new school. The school community deserves this amazing building, as one child said ‘our new school makes me happy and inspires me to learn and be ambitious’.

“Thank you to all those involved in creating an inspirational learning environment, in which our pupils can continue to grow, succeed and fulfil their dreams.”

The East City Point development has so far created 311 new homes in the regeneration area, and by 2017 there will be a total of 649 new properties.

Ian Sutcliffe, Group Chief Executive of Countryside added: “I am delighted that the new state of the art Keir Hardie Primary School is now officially available for the whole community to enjoy. It is an essential part of the Canning Town and Custom House regeneration programme which has seen Countryside and Newham Council working closely together to help deliver a high quality educational environment for generations to come. We look forward to watching the school develop and grow in this exciting new building.”