

# S1 Pupils Visit New School Site

On Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June, six S1 pupils were invited to the new school site to be part of a formal visit by the new Executive Councillor for Education David Dodds and Head of Education for Learning, Policies and Resources, Mr. James Cameron. They were given a talk by the Construction Manager for Morrison Construction, Mr. Allan Lyttle before given the opportunity to view the new building up close.

On behalf of the group of pupils, Cara Adams posed a few questions. Below is a brief interpretation of their replies.



## James Cameron – Head of Education

Q. How do you see the building of a new school changing and helping the way that pupils learn?

A. Yes, it will help considerably. It is good to have a new school that will be using more open spaces that are less traditional and more flexible than ordinary classrooms. It will make a big difference. This is an improved environment for pupils and teachers alike. It is up to you, the pupils, to take advantage of these new opportunities for a better and richer learning experience.

## Allan Lyttle – Construction Manager

Q. What has been the most challenging part of the construction so far?

A. Getting out of the ground was difficult because of the position of the site - when it rained they needed to put drainage systems in and needed to dig out all the mud and earth. There was 25,000 cubic metres of muck which took ages to dig out.

Q. Will the school be ready for pupils starting in August 2018?

A. Yes it will be ready for August 2018. It will be a shiny, new school and more exciting. Everything has gone to schedule so far and no reason for that to change.

## Councillor Dodds

Q. What do you think the new school will do for the local community?

A. It will be a great help as it is much closer to the local community than the existing school is. The new environment will help you in your learning and ultimately in your tests and exams. We are very lucky to have this opportunity in West Lothian.