We plan to create a buzzing physical environment that will cultivate a world leading community of excellence for Science and Engineering, teaching, research and industry; embedded at the heart of the local community.

The key to this vision is the ‘Nucleus’, a new staff and student ‘hub’ for learning, studying and socialising built at the heart of the King’s Buildings campus, it will bring many aspects of campus life together in one building.

This ambitious project aims to bring a wide variety of facilities together; including lecture theatres, study and learning spaces, retail and catering outlets and a gym for use by students, staff and the local community.

The Nucleus will be the front door to the campus and a focal point for the King’s Buildings community. It will be a place where students can study in private or in groups, relax, meet their friends, grab a coffee or keep fit.

By blending learning and teaching with student services and social facilities we will create an environment where students will want to spend time when it opens in 2022.

Over the next decade the University of Edinburgh will transform the collection of buildings that is the King’s Buildings as we know it today into a world class, dynamic campus.
The Nucleus will be formed from new and existing buildings which will complement each other and link the different facilities together.

The overall project will be delivered through a series of construction phases which will allow the Nucleus to adapt to emerging demands and long term growth over the next 10 – 20 years.

The first phase of the project, is for a new building at Thomas Bayes Road. It will be connected to the Noreen and Kenneth Murray Library, forming a learning and teaching hub close to existing campus amenities.

The Ann Walker building and KB Centre will be demolished to make space for construction of the Nucleus.

An arrival square and thoroughfare will link the main campus entrance to the green heart of the campus.

Retail and catering outlets will be located on the ground floor of the Nucleus activating the frontage.

The Nucleus will accommodate College growth and consolidate Science and Engineering teaching at the King’s Buildings campus.

As part of the University’s overall teaching and learning strategy, Murchison House has been acquired and refurbished to accommodate small-scale teaching from January 2019 onwards.

The construction of the Nucleus building development will provide large-scale teaching and serviced study spaces from 2022.

It will improve the student and staff experience and support growth and student recruitment, while improving transport issues and catering.

The overall vision for the campus is to upgrade and modernise the King’s Buildings estate in line with other global universities and untangle years of ad-hoc development which will benefit students, staff and the local community.
WHAT’S INSIDE

- A central atrium at the heart of the Nucleus building will provide views around the building and out to the woodland area at the heart of the campus.

- A communal area will create a meet and greet space for people to congregate throughout the day.

- Breakout/group pods/touchdown spaces which can be used for group work and social learning spaces.

- Cellular rooms which can provide space for small groups of students or staff.

- Secluded and partially enclosed study spaces to allow for quieter and more private study areas.

- Formal 400 seat lecture theatre located over two floors with entrances and exits on both levels.

- Three 40 seat teaching rooms to pilot innovations in teaching.

- Two 300 seat lecture theatres.

- Three 150 seat lecture theatres.

- Two 300 seat lecture theatres.

- 100 student teaching lab with 50 fume hoods.

- Serviced study.

- Secure storage for student possessions.

- External area for big events and outdoor cinema.

- Catering Level (Sheppard Robson Architects).

- Back Entrance to 400 seat Lecture Theatre (Sheppard Robson Architects).