

## BANFF COLLEGE TABLES PLANS FOR REVAMP

**Banff and Buchan College** has revealed plans for a multimillion-pound makeover.

It will be the biggest revamp of the college's campus at Fraserburgh since it opened more than 40 years ago. It is seeking planning permission from **Aberdeenshire Council** for the overhaul, which will involve a complete redesign of the college entrance, extending the building by around 22,000sq ft.

The plans include demolishing part of the existing building and filling in some of the central courtyards. Re-roofing work and a relocation of the nursery building are also planned.

The college says its 60s premises, which have been largely unchanged since they opened, need to expand to cope with the rise in student numbers and provide new areas for future courses. The proposals, by architects **haa Design**, were welcomed by staff and students when they were put on public display for the first time earlier this year.

A spokeswoman for the college said: "The college refurbishment is a significant step for us and will benefit current and future learners, our community and industry partners and our staff.

"We have developed a sustainable solution based on a major refurbishment of the existing building and while the key changes will be internal the external image will also be improved.

"We are moving forward with planning and are optimistic that the design will be well received. Discussions so far with staff, students and the public have been positive but until the outcomes of key funding decisions are made we cannot be certain that the project will go ahead."

The application is being considered by the council planners and is likely to be brought before members of the Banff and Buchan area committee later this year.

The college has also submitted a blueprint to the Scottish Funding Council, asking for its support. A decision could be made before the end of the month. Banff and Buchan College has other campuses at Ellon, Peterhead, Huntly and Macduff.

[www.banff-buchan.ac.uk](http://www.banff-buchan.ac.uk)