



High Green Development Trust

Background

High Green Development Trust, an Industrial & Provident Society, was formed in 2004 to manage and develop the old High Green Comprehensive School. The school was brought back into use in 1997 by a charity called "**Paces Sheffield**", for the benefit of the community, the membership and all the organisations which use the centre.

Services delivered at the centre, now known as Paces Campus, include a computer recycling project, sports & fitness, community nursery, out of school clubs, youth club, martial arts, community arts & events project and other learning opportunities. There is also an information and support service for families of children with disabilities.



Responding to a need

Paces Sheffield continues to develop its services for families supporting children with cerebral palsy through its School for Conductive Education based at the campus. This has been extended to working with adults with disabilities through the 'Leaping the Void' programme where enterprise solutions are used towards achieving economic independence and autonomy.



PROFILE IN BRIEF

High Green Development Trust

Services offered:

- We manage a former comprehensive school building
- Information and support service for families of children with disabilities
- Sports and Fitness
- Community Nursery
- Out of School Clubs
- Youth Club
- Martial Arts
- Computer recycling
- Community café
- Environment/arts/events management
- Learning and skills opportunities
- Office space, hot desking
- Meeting rooms
- Social enterprise business incubation

Who do you work with?

- Local residents
- Volunteers
- Local artists
- Local entrepreneurs

Contact Details:

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The centre is the largest employer in the High Green area, with more than ninety people working on the campus for the various charities and businesses. As many as 1500 people a week use the many activities Paces offers. The centre is delighted that there are business personnel on the board of the Trust and among the school Governors, bringing their valued skills and expertise.

A social enterprise hub and small business incubator, the campus has attracted local artists who use the centre as a base for the only local artists' gallery in the north of Sheffield. Another entrepreneur offers fresh flower arrangements and cards, and a computer recycling project offers affordable computers. In fact, the computer training has had an impressive track record with over half of participants going on to paid employment.

Paces can also offer meeting, conference and training rooms set next to Westwood, Sheffield's only country park and office space available to let.

Enterprise Project Manager Steve Barnard is quick to point to the success of the café, **"it's run by volunteers 'Friend of Paces Campus'. Brian has managed the café, fundraised and attracted other volunteers for 11 years. High Green Development Trust describes him as a top volunteer as he also helps out with maintenance within the centre. We certainly couldn't manage without him"**.



Amazing Achievements

HGDT has successfully managed the building for 4 years and enabled a variety of different services to be launched. Steve comments, **"We set out to support Paces Campus tenants and businesses – and they are still there!"**

Looking Ahead

HGDT is looking to increase sustainability of all tenants at the Campus through business support, funding planning and marketing. Steve is also keen to develop links with the wider community and with local residents to better develop the campus. He concluded, **"We hope to redevelop the building. Sheffield City Council still owns the lease. HGDT are hoping to have the lease handed over at the end of July 08. A recently formed Capital Development Group will then look for funds to extend the current offer, provide new activities in a redeveloped new building and take us forward. We can't wait!"**

