


PARKANAUR COLLEGE





Providing a safe environment for learning and living

For our students and residents to enjoy learning important life skills that will assist them in their future employment/independency

To provide a 'home away from home' atmosphere for students and residents

To provide the highest level of care and support for our residents and students

Our Ethos

Parkanaur College

- Located in Parkanaur Manor House in Parkanaur Forest Park for over 50 years. Donated to local population. Currently managed by Thomas Doran Parkanaur Trust, a charity.
- Providing training towards employment for young adults with disabilities.
- Increasingly used by those with multiple disabilities, often including autism.
- Also houses a residential care home for 14 residents.
- Site shared with Forestry Service and Speedwell Trust.
- Trustees vision.

Challenges and proposed changes

- Need to ensure relevance to and fit with strategic plans of funders and potential funders/business partners, and to meeting the needs of local population.
- Current funding from Dept for Communities.
- Continuing to operate during Covid19.
- Co-working with the Strategic Investment Board.

Mid-Ulster Council Community Plan and Corporate Plan. How Parkanaur can contribute.

- Education and skills.
- Working together to help people with their Mental Health and Well-being.
- Looking after the environment and heritage/using empty or derelict buildings.
- Wanting people to be educated and skilled/make sure 18yr olds have something to move on to after school/help more adults go back to education.
- Look after and develop key places, including our forests.
- Economic growth.

Parkanaur's potential to contribute.

- Track record of providing training to people with disabilities/barriers to employment.
- Experienced staff group.
- Existing, but under-developed social enterprises.
- Existing estate resources, some needing rescue to maximise their potential, expand existing and develop new activities.
- Community support.
- Willingness to work with partners.
- Existing business as an “anchor tenant” and expanding employment opportunities.

Developing Social Enterprises

- Currently operate a garden centre that doubles as practical training experience and garden centre outlet.
- Similarly have small upholstery workshop on-site.
- Mobile catering outlet. To start March 2021.
- Limited use of Manor House and significant potential to develop.
- Range of outbuildings could be developed for a range of activities, creating employment and training opportunities including for people with disabilities and mental ill-health.
- Range of outbuildings not within control of TDPT which could be further developed to house outlet space/leisure related and environmental activity.
- Ambition to offer Day Opportunities to Health and Social Care Trusts.

How we feel Mid Ulster Council can help us achieve our vision.

- Council has significant experience in planning, for example Connecting Pomeroy.
- Co-ordinating potential partners such as Forestry and Speedwell Trust.
- Assisting in accessing funding for improvements to estate.
- Seeing Parkanaur as a delivery partner in achieving objectives of the Community Plan.
- Helping shape our future/providing fresh eyes.
- Greater use of Parkanaur facilities by the local population.