

Sheffield **Social**

*The upfront,
no-nonsense,
city-wide guide in support of
disadvantaged groups...*

**"SNOOKER
SPECIAL"**



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Supporting Services For People With Learning Disabilities

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For people with
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Sponsor this page to give someone with learning disabilities the chance to earn GCSE credits through snooker...

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Feedback... Feedback... Feedback...

Paul Bage



Paul says, "I like coming to play snooker and I like volunteering on thursday evenings helping the disadvantaged youngsters make friends and mix in a sociable way, it makes me feel ok."

Barrie Haigh
(Care Worker)

Barrie says, "The snooker academy is one of the few provisions where you can take the disabled out into the community. I like bringing Robert socialising and the snooker helps with concentration and numeracy. I like that there are set rules which keep Robert calm and he likes this too."

Johnny White

Johnny says, "Because I enjoy it. I like meeting friends here and socialising. My snooker has improved but it's difficult



on the full size table, I need more lessons. I want more training, sometimes I can put my own scores on the scoreboard. I won a certificate on awards night, I felt good that I achieved this. I particularly liked playing and seeing Jimmy White at the exhibition night. I think Jimmy's had his day now I'm the new whirlwind champion snooker player. I also liked that we had a disco and I sang on the karaoke, it made me feel famous and I've started to write new songs. I've just finished college and started a new job in office work, I go twice a week. I have a support worker and go to McDonalds and chinese restaurants with my friends."

"We  Snooker"

Richard Green

Richard says, "It teaches me new skills, it makes me take my time more and concentrate. My imagination works well when I'm playing snooker. I can't wait to start the UK Snooker Awards course it will help me with my reading and writing. When I'm at the academy I get on with people, learning respect and taking turns. There's no swearing and no falling out. I would love to be a snooker referee, I've got my white gloves and my ball marker ready. I can't wait to referee a proper league match."



Eve Marples

Eve says, "Coming to the academy really helps my reading and writing and my adding up. It also helps my depression. I can



make friends when I'm at the academy. I haven't got many friends at home. I enjoy running the tournaments and keeping things in order when people don't know who they are playing. I enjoy playing spoof this helps me recognise which ball to go for when I pick a card. When I've finished the course I could go and help other people learn how to play snooker properly. This would help me feel confident because I don't have much confidence and if I'm helping other people it makes me happy that I'm helping them..."

GCSE's through Snooker...

Welcome to the Stephen Harrison Academy (SHA), a social enterprise aimed at providing mentoring services and learn into work programmes for people with learning difficulties, mental health difficulties, physical difficulties, children with autism, children with obesity, young offenders and individuals not in education, employment or training.

By using, Learning & Exercise Through Snooker (LETS) and SHA's UK Snooker Awards we aim to enable disadvantaged groups and individuals to participate in sport and improve their quality of life.

It includes a mentoring programme and a six step learning certificate leading to real jobs and careers.

The UK Snooker Awards promote personal development through vocational workshops, numeracy, literacy, concentration skills, organisational skills, sportsmanship, team building, social skills, life skills, exercise and an eat well plan, using the activity of snooker.

Our aim is to enable individuals with emotional and well-being issues to develop confidence. Supporting people with disabilities is at the forefront of our work. We also engage disaffected children and young people to improve their attitudes and behaviour, thereby promoting community cohesion.

The Stephen Harrison Academy is committed to enabling disadvantaged groups and individuals to access social groups in the community, through sport, which they may have previously found themselves excluded from.

Our goal is to overcome stereotypical images of individuals who have emotional and well-being issues or disabilities.



Our objective is social inclusion for all regardless of physical or mental health.

Stephen Harrison Academy is engaged in finding new ways into employment for individuals with emotional and well-being issues or disabilities. Individuals are given the opportunity to volunteer and develop their 'soft skills' to enable them to acquire employability skills.

SHA has produced a student learning pack, incorporating a thirty page student book comprised of six awards, each award is worth 1 gcese credit.

SHA's UK Snooker Awards is an inclusive and empowering way to learn and achieve nationally accredited qualifications that lead to real jobs and careers.

The UK Snooker Awards are open to individuals of all ages and abilities and are dedicated to job creation and careers through sport.

The student programme focuses on sport and fitness, both mental and physical and is designed to achieve positive outcomes yielding quantifiable results.

SHA UK Snooker Awards provides new ways into employment.

Students progress through our awards programme to become tutors themselves, delivering the courses to new groups of learners.

SHA is actively engaged in creating and promoting sustainable communities through inclusive learning and job creation.

Join SHA's UK Snooker Award programme, complete all six awards to achieve tutor status.

SHA provides qualitative one on one mentoring, delivering inclusive and empowered learning programmes tailored to the individuals needs and abilities.



SNOOKERING ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

PLAY SAFE! KIDS GET CUED IN...

The Stephen Harrison Academy (SHA) is providing FREE SNOOKER SESSIONS for young people to help reduce anti-social behaviour. SHA is actively working to give the young people of today a better chance in life by engaging them in snooker instead of hanging around on the streets where they are at risk of offending. Stephen Harrison says, "We at the academy believe this project is working really well, it's keeping the kids out of trouble and basically just giving them something to do. I've seen many groups of kids just hanging around their local shops, I always carry plenty of academy leaflets to give out informing the kids of our session times." Stephen adds, "I believe in tackling things at grassroots level, the leaflets let the kids know about our snooker and pool sessions directly, they also know my face. I think it's great getting them involved in snooker, some kids are pretty good players there's some really natural, raw snooker talent in Sheffield, but more importantly everyone really enjoys playing the game and taking part." He also says, "Snooker's not just a boys game anymore, the girls really enjoy playing and are keen competitors." Stephen Harrison Academy has been servicing many groups since it was first set up in the summer of 2007 ranging from learning difficulties, mental health, children with learning difficulties, youth offending and neets (not in education employment and training). Stephen says, "I'm really passionate about improving young peoples behaviour and giving them something positive to aim for, the young people seem to like coming to the snooker sessions we put on and I believe it can transform young peoples lives."



The academy has also been servicing Sheffield's north prevention team youth offending service since last year with some fantastic results, the academy has also forged strong links with the safer neighbourhood teams, Stephen says, "It's good to get the pcsos involved in this project." Chief Constable Meredydd Hughes says, "Keep up the good work." Stephen Harrison the founder of the academy concludes, "We're really making a difference in the community, students at the academy can now earn GCSE credits through our nationally accredited UK Snooker Awards 'start learning, start earning programme', which provides many young people with their first job. SHA's FREE SNOOKER SESSION is on Thursdays between 4pm-7pm at Hillsborough Snooker Centre, Baxter Road, S6. So if you're aged 8-18 and you want to get involved you can just turn up or telephone 0114 224 2346 for more info or text your name to 07864046826 to book your place."

Your break...



THE BOSS BOXING CLEVER

Craig Cleeton got the chance to meet up with 'Ross The Boss' at The Stephen Harrison Academy (SHA). Craig said, "The Stephen Harrison Academy has really helped me in a lot of ways, it has built up my confidence and helped me get a job as an apprentice nursery nurse. I first started at the academy on Monday nights and then as my skills got better I became a volunteer, helping others to play and doing some coaching. I have been a volunteer for 6 months and my confidence has really built up. At the moment I am a nursery nurse apprentice at the northern general hospital in Sheffield, I also volunteer for Steve at the weekend, if I get the chance. If I ever need any help the academy is the place to go. I would like to say a big thanks to the SHA for everything they have done for me."

Craig Cleeton and Ross The Boss



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Socially Enterprising...

David is 18, he is a qualified UK Snooker Awards tutor at the Stephen Harrison Academy (SHA) in Sheffield, its his first job. David says, "I first attended SHA when I was at school. I enjoyed playing pool, but then gained an interest in snooker. Initially, I wanted to improve my technique and develop my game. That was only the beginning of my journey, as I achieved so much more and acquired a wide variety of knowledge and skills.

I progressed quickly and passed all six awards. Now I am a qualified SHA tutor, delivering the UK Snooker Awards programme at the Stephen Harrison Academy in Sheffield. It feels great to be able to contribute to the good work SHA does in the community, I get a lot from helping people who are less fortunate than myself.

I also go to college where I'm studying IT. I'm learning web design but it's different at the academy because I can ask Jon who works in marketing and he will show me how to apply

my design and publish it to the internet with immediate results. Then he will teach me about search engine optimisation. At the academy I get a more hands on, business oriented approach to teaching, its fantastic, it expands my imagination while keeping my feet firmly on the ground. I'm really looking forward to getting involved with this community newsletter, 'The Social'. I want to play a part in all stages of putting it together and distributing it. I'm looking forward to learning about graphic design and creative writing, selling advertising and buying print in quantity. It all counts towards my career, maybe in the future I'll set up my own business or social enterprise, I'm looking at the bigger picture."



David Hale

Your Letters... *About Stephen Harrison Academy*

"I know quite a few people who access your service and I have had nothing but positive feedback. I think what you are doing for people with learning difficulties and mental health problems is amazing, very empowering and refreshingly different. I wholeheartedly support you and wish you every success in the future".

Karen Egeh, Volunteer Co-ordinator, Burton Street Foundation.

"The children who attend really enjoy coming along on a Thursday and it is a good opportunity for them to socialise and learn a new sport. Our children have a variety of disabilities ranging from autism, ADHD, aspergers syndrome, torrettes syndrome, dyspraxia, autistic spectrum disorder and most of them have great difficulty in concentrating. With your patience and guidance they are now attaining a new skill in a fun way. Many thanks for giving the children of Ray of Hope this opportunity, and long may it continue".

Jayne A Raynor,
Ray of Hope, Sheffield.

"The group that Stephen runs is unique in that it gives clients a direct link to the community, which means that they are included at a different level than if this group was a mental health facilitated group. Our clients have benefited because the social inclusion doesn't end with the tuition that Stephen provides every week. Stephen has rolled out the group to facilitate weekly tournaments, a league team and awards nights. This has taken social inclusion to a new level and has opened up avenues to our clients that may not have been open to them before, or they may not have felt able to take".

Kim Wilson, Day Service Worker,
West Day Services, Sheffield Care Trust.

Yer Bard...!

What a piece of work is man
How noble in reason
How infinite in faculties
In form and moving
How express and admirable
In action how like an angel
In apprehension how like a god
The beauty of the world
The paragon of animals
I have of late
But wherefore I know not
Lost all my mirth
This goodly frame
The earth
Seems to me a sterile promontory
This most excellent canopy
The air— look you!
This brave o'erhanging firmament
This majestical roof
Fretted with golden fire
Why it appears no other thing to me
Than a foul and pestilent congregation
Of vapors
What a piece of work is man
How noble in reason
How dare they try to end this beauty?
How dare they try to end this beauty?
Walking in space
We find the purpose of peace
The beauty of life
You can no longer hide
Our eyes are open
Our eyes are open
Our eyes are open
Our eyes are open
Wide wide wide!

Poets
Corner

We don't need a world champion, we want the peoples champion...

Become a qualified UK Snooker Coach and teach our accredited course. Tel: 0114 224 2346

Learning & Exercise Through Snooker™

Tutors Tool Kit

Improving Your English through snooker

Includes:
Literacy4Life Pack
Nutrition4Life Pack
Numeracy4Life Pack

GCSE's through snooker...

Activity Based Learning

Stephen Harrison ACADEMY

ASDAN

Shane tastes the good life for a brighter, greener future...

Shane's feet are planted firmly on the ground, now he's found his vocation making greener spaces at Graves Park, enhancing its natural beauty for us all to enjoy here in Sheffield. Shane says, "I love working in the park, It's brilliant!" he adds, "Before I worked here I didn't go out much and I was very lonely, this came to feel normal after a while. I'd really like to thank my parents for encouraging me to join the 'Snooker Group' at the Stephen Harrison Academy (SHA) so I could mix with other people and gain some confidence. I became a volunteer helping out with some of the groups. I got a good reference from the academy and I've never looked back since. I gained so much confidence my self-esteem rocketed and now I've got the best job in the world and it suits me down to the ground." He goes on to say, "I'll always have time for the academy though, everybody made me feel very welcome. Looking back, it was my first step in being able to feel normal and take my place in everyday life."



SNIPS

The Special Needs Inclusion Playcare Service has been working with the Stephen Harrison Academy for the past 12 months, to provide services for children and young people with special needs and their siblings on Saturday's and school holidays. The academy has provided an excellent opportunity for those participating to learn valuable skills through playing snooker in a safe and friendly environment.

The staff at the academy are excellent at engaging the children and young people and understanding their needs. The Stephen Harrison Academy provides not only snooker skills but a supportive social environment where children and young people can learn and develop at their own pace.



Lord Mayor Presents Snooker Awards For a Service Set Up In Partnership With The Special Needs Inclusion Playcare Service...



Welcome to the Stephen Harrison Academy (SHA), a social enterprise aimed at providing mentoring services and learn into work programmes for people with learning difficulties, mental health difficulties, physical difficulties, young people with disabilities, young people with obesity, young offenders and individuals not in education, employment or training. By using, Learning & Exercise Through Snooker (LETS) and SHA's UK Snooker Awards, we aim to enable disadvantaged groups and individuals to participate in sport and improve their quality of life. SHA has been working with the Special Needs Inclusion Playcare Service for over a year, providing snooker sessions for young people with learning difficulties on Saturdays and during the school holidays. This service is one of the many clubs set up to provide short breaks for families of children and young people with disabilities. Lord Mayor, Graham Oxley came along to Hillsborough Snooker Club on Saturday 13th March to show his support for the academy and all the good work it does in the community. The Lord Mayor presented the young people, who attend the snooker sessions with certificates and snooker cues for their achievements. Steven Mercer, academy director says, "The academy provides a supportive environment where children and young people can develop at their own pace. The young people who attend, love coming to the snooker sessions, not only are they learning how to play a sport correctly, but they are also meeting other young people in a safe and friendly environment. Everyone gets on great! Sometimes, you can hear a pin drop in the snooker club, as all the young people are busy concentrating on their game, or practising their cue action to improve their technique." He goes on to say, "The staff at the academy are really good at engaging with the children and young people and understanding their needs. The sessions are really well organised. They begin with some snooker tuition, followed by a tournament and then the day is then finished off with some trickshots that the children have invented themselves, which shows the children feel empowered and confident enough to take the lead. The children's confidence has increased dramatically and they want to learn more." Steven Mercer also said, "I would like to thank the Lord Mayor for coming along and showing his support at our awards ceremony, the children and young people deserve to be praised for all their hard work and for all that they've achieved." SHA is expanding its services to the south of the city by putting on a come and try snooker session for children and young people with disabilities at Rileys Snooker Club, Mansfield Road on the 28th March from 12 noon - 3pm. Families interested in attending the come and try sessions contact: Joe Priestley at SNIPS on 2734017 or email cypdsnips@sheffield.gov.uk