



A unique partnership

Circus Central is possible because of the unique partnership formed in 2009 between Christ Church Parochial Church Council, Christ Church C of E Primary School and the North East Circus Development Trust. Working together, the partners plan to develop the Church and Church Hall and the School Gymnasium for increased community activities, including Circus. As partners in this venture, Fr Allan and Sandra Furno meet every 4 – 6 weeks with Helen Averley, CEO of North East Circus Development Trust to plan the development of the project and monitor progress.

Circus achievements

Circus-related achievements of the partnership to date include:

- After-school Circus Clubs
- Inter-generational learning, with parent / pupil engagement in circus-related projects and, where appropriate, all age circus clubs
- Development of a performance youth troupe
- Free Circus Cabaret performances for the community
- A comprehensive programme of circus training designed to inspire and give access to all ages and abilities
- Attendance of Circus performers at local community events
- Through all of these events, making a valuable contribution to community cohesion.

Progress with our development plans

- The Church Hall has been rigged for Circus
- The Church has been re-roofed
- The School Gymnasium is soon to be refurbished, including laying a new floor.

Bids for funding are being prepared for other works, including

- improved heating systems in all community areas
- a new kitchen and a re-ordering of storage and toilets in the Church Hall, and
- improved storage access in the School Gymnasium.

