

**Additional Information in reference to the
Request for a Listing of
The Former Grove Park Girls Grammar School
Wrexham**

**Presented by Roland George MRICS FCIOB FASI
On behalf of The Grove Park Preservation Society
and Save Our Heritage.**

Art Deco Double Staircase:



The Great Hall:



The Great Hall and Balcony:



The Balcony:



Templemore Avenue School, Belfast

An important Grade B1 listed former school which sits in an area of Victorian housing, set on a peace line between communities.

Built in 1924 and once a centre for the local community, Templemore School fell into disrepair and suffered from significant vandalism after its closure in 2003. However, as one of the few buildings of distinction in an area of high economic and social deprivation, it still had the potential to contribute significantly to improving the local area.

The project to regenerate the school was led by the East Belfast Community Development Agency (EBCDA), an umbrella organisation supporting community development. The EBCDA had the vision to turn the school into a ground-breaking community development project. They wanted the site to provide space for local organisations and start-up businesses and be a meeting place for groups and organisations that bring together the adjoining Protestant and Catholic communities. We worked alongside and supported the EBCDA to champion the regeneration aspect of the project, raise the project's profile and assist with securing funding.

The project is completed and the building, now called the East Belfast Network Centre, reopened in June 2013. The former school provides a flexible space for a range of local organisations to provide a valuable service to the local community under one roof. From charities for young people and the elderly to counselling services, an advice centre and a children's day centre, Templemore Avenue acts as a 'one stop shop' for local residents. The space is also used as a meeting place for groups and organisations that bring together the adjoining Protestant and Catholic communities.

East Belfast Network Centre

Grant Programme: Department for Social Development's Modernisation Fund Capital Programme and Neighbourhood Renewal Investment Fund.

Funding: £3.7million project costs- DSD £1.5million; Princes Regeneration Trust £50k; International Fund for Ireland £900k; BRO £800k & DOE NIEA £248k; Belfast City Council £100k; EBCDA £50k.

Project themes: Community development; community centre; regeneration; environmental improvements; capacity building; partnership; social enterprise; cross-community; interface area; social inclusion.

Description: East Belfast Network Centre (formerly Templemore Avenue School) is a B1 listed building that has been regenerated for a number of East Belfast community organisations to be based in.

The building last fell into disrepair in 2003 and became the target of vandalism and a symbol of decline on a peace line between Protestant and Catholic communities.

Templemore Avenue School Trust under the East Belfast Community Development Agency (a local umbrella organisation), recognised the significant potential the school had in improving an area of high economic and social deprivation.

The building is now a hub of activity and vital local resource, increasing services and capacity building for community and voluntary organisations in the area. The facility includes an advice centre, a counselling centre, a café and an early year's centre, with space for local organisations.

Photographs of Templemore School below:



Major St
Belfast, Northern Ireland

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🕒 Street View - Apr 2015

