



sKate



The Keighley Xtreme Sport Initiative

Partner Organisations & Initiatives:

sportKeighley
Keighley Town Council
Bradford Vision
Keighley College
Bradford Environmet Partnership
bactive
Airedale Primary Care Trust



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The sKate Initiative

The Keighley "SKate" initiative, launched in December 2004, pulls together all sorts of people and groups from across the district with a view to working together to create an infrastructure of skating and extreme sports facilities (eg, skate-parks, climbing walls, free running areas, assault courses, etc) and activities.

Keighley and district has poor provision for such activities (although facilities in Cross Roads and Silsden are in the pipeline), even though there are many participants and enthusiasts in the area.

The most visible expression of this lack of provision is the tremendous amount of effort, usually by groups of youngsters, to create "skate-parks" in their neighbourhoods. Activities associated with such schemes, namely skateboarding, roller blading and BMX cycling are often associated with an image of youngsters creating noise, litter and damage. Yet all involve skill, practise, dedication and physical fitness, and these and other activities are just the sort of thing that people, especially youngsters, are being exhorted to get involved in!

Plans include co-ordination of potential indoor and outdoor skating facility projects and a range of boarding, skating, bmx, climbing and other extreme sports and cycling activities at sportKarnival in 2005.

There is also a wide range of additional opportunities associated with the SKate initiative, including the sale of equipment, design and manufacture of clothing and equipment, street art, music, demonstration events, competitions and charity events.

The SKate initiative is also part of the Keighley Integrated (Ki) transport infrastructure initiative, which is aimed at creating a wide network of opportunity for travel across Keighley. The SKate angle is aimed at enabling complementary Walkways and CyKle routes to be used by skaters, rollers and free runners to gain access to the developing network of facilities (indoor and outdoor) and also to break down perceived barriers between different parts of the town by creating physical and well-used connections between them.

Slogan from presentation at the launch of sKate, December 2004:

"Together we're stronger"

We need to promote our assets!!