

## What makes Sands End sustainable?

Sands End Arts & Community Centre is an independent charity based in a beautiful, fully accessible, sustainable building, located on the edge of the picturesque open space of South Park in Fulham: it was completed in 2020 and was RIBA's London Building of the Year 2022 for good reason.

This sustainable venue is thoughtfully designed to harmonise with its natural surroundings, offering large, airy spaces ideal for corporate and private events alike. Positioned at the entrance to South Park, Sands End features a series of interconnected, light-filled spaces, including a large hall, breakout areas, a Lodge gallery repurposed from a historic building, landscaped gardens and a peaceful grove of walnut trees.

Designed by Mæ Architects, this venue serves a vibrant, diverse community that played an active role in its creation, ensuring it met local needs with essential features like a café, changing rooms, and versatile event spaces. Inspired by the glasshouses that once occupied the site, the distinctive monopitch roofs create an intimate atmosphere around a central courtyard, rising to double height along the park boundary. This thoughtful design reduces carbon costs while enhancing energy efficiency.

Sustainable materials are integral to the venue's structure. Large cross-laminated timber (CLT) and glulam frames support the building, complimented by green-stained timber paneling inside. The exterior brickwork, supplied by specialist StoneCycling, upcycles over 28 tonnes of potential construction waste. Custom 'Nougat' WasteBasedBricks®, composed of 60% recycled material and laid on their sides to minimise usage, were created specifically for Sands End, making this the first UK project to feature them.

The building's orientation also reduces energy demands. South-facing windows are shaded by overhangs, while a passive ventilation system, high-level vents combined with low-level windows, keeps the spaces naturally cool and comfortable.

## Making a Difference in the Community

Hosting your event at Sands End not only supports sustainable practices but directly contributes to our mission of promoting social cohesion, accessibility and wellbeing. Event revenues fund essential programs, making a real difference in the lives of the local community.

Here are just a few impactful projects your event will help bring to life:

- **Community Engagement:** Residents enjoy perks like £1 hot drinks on Wednesday afternoons, free coffee on 'Meet Up Mondays,' and the Wednesday Club, which offers meals and crafts for older adults.
- **Employment Initiatives:** Approximately one-third of the staff are registered disabled, and Sands End new hospitality employment programme provides opportunities for young adults with learning disabilities.
- **Free Community Programmes:** Weekly sessions, including table tennis for seniors and art therapy, foster wellbeing and social connections.
- **Support for Local Groups:** Free and low-cost space is available for local associations, charities and artists, encouraging community-driven arts and culture.
- **Educational Partnerships:** Collaborations with local schools offer free music workshops, performances, and student art exhibitions, enriching the cultural landscape.

## Sustainable Catering that Gives Back

At Sands End, we are proud to partner with renowned caterers who share our commitment to sustainability and community values. Our approved caterers champion diversity, equity and inclusion while crafting menus with locally sourced ingredients that minimise waste and reduce environmental impact. Our selection prioritises ethical credentials alongside culinary creativity and industry reputation, ensuring that every meal reflects our shared values. Choosing Sands End catering means enjoying delicious food while actively supporting a sustainable future.

## Wellbeing, CSR Activities and Outdoor Spaces

Every event at Sands End is designed to be rejuvenating, connected, and surrounded by nature. Flooded with natural light and situated within tranquil gardens and outdoor areas, this venue offers a unique setting to refresh and inspire. To further enhance this atmosphere, our partners Evolve Events have curated a directory of wellbeing and CSR activities, workshops and speakers. These programmes offer experiences that engage and uplift, nourishing mind, body, and soul, while leaving a lasting, positive impact on your guests.

By choosing Sands End for your event, you're supporting a venue that's not only sustainable and thoughtfully designed but also committed to a greater purpose. It's a choice that brings together elegance, community impact and wellbeing, making it the perfect setting for memorable, meaningful events.

For further information about hosting your event at Sands End contact:

**Gary Peters**  
**[gary@evolve-events.com](mailto:gary@evolve-events.com)**  
**Evolve Events**  
**T: 020 7610 2808**  
**@ evolveevents**

**evolve**  
events

