

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1191408

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR

THE PERIOD 1st January 2024 TO 31st December 2024

FOR

THORNTON EDUCATION TRUST

Forward from Chair

Thornton Education Trust aims to empower children and young people to actively shape their built environment by advancing education and youth engagement in architecture, urban design, and planning. The Trust works to build professional sector capacity, foster meaningful collaboration, and promote creative, participatory approaches that connect young people with the places where they live and learn.

Key objectives include developing resources, peer learning, and awards that support best practices in youth engagement; advocating for built environment stakeholders to embed youth participation in design and planning processes; and maintaining collaborative partnerships between educators and built environment professionals. Education is an integral part of this mission, with a focus on recognising and encouraging schools and teachers who creatively incorporate architecture and the built environment into their curricula, thus strengthening links between education and professional practice.

Through these combined efforts, Thornton Education Trust seeks to build confident, skilled young people who can influence the future of their communities and inspire positive change in the built environment.

In 2024, our initiatives continued to reflect these aims and objectives. The Inspire Future Generations Awards celebrate projects and individuals whose work—often overlooked but profoundly influential—places young people and communities at the centre of creating healthier, fairer, and more resilient places. This year, the awards expanded to recognise contributions not only from practitioners and practices but also from local authorities and development companies. The success of the fourth ceremony enabled TET to commence the development of a resource bank, now an invaluable reference for future youth engagement initiatives in the built environment.

Insights from four years of awards submissions were captured in *Empowering Environments*, an updated publication mapping areas of greatest activity, geographic spread, and funding opportunities in the sector. Through the ENGAGE initiative—funded by the Marchus Trust in 2023—TET developed the ENGAGE Toolkit, a practical resource demonstrating why meaningful engagement with children and young people is essential to shaping inclusive environments. Featuring best-practice examples and adaptable outreach methods, the toolkit was launched at TurnerWorks on 26 June 2024, with panel speakers including Dhruv Gulabchande, Jennifer Pirie, Tringa Kelmendi, Antonio Capelao, and Clare Bond..

TET contributed to the Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Commons Select Committee inquiry on Children, Young People and the Built Environment. In collaboration with Simon Shtebunaev, TET developed a template letter and guidance to assist practitioners in submitting evidence. Although the inquiry's publication was cancelled due to the change of government, this initiative helped galvanise sector-wide advocacy for greater child and youth inclusion in built environment policy. At the 2024 Urban Design Group symposium, Victoria Thornton chaired a session on designing for and with children and young people, moving beyond conventional consultation to embrace participatory and co-design approaches.

In response to the Labour government's Curriculum and Assessment Review – Call for Evidence, TET highlighted the urgent need to address the 68% decline in Design and Technology GCSE entries since 2010, alongside the continuing decline in art and design education across the UK. TET provided responses where relevant.

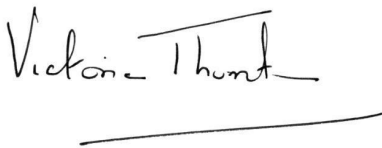
As part of its knowledge-sharing remit, TET collaborated on the *Architecture for Kids Podcast*—created by Antonio Capelao in partnership with the Built Environment Trust and the Welsh School of Architecture, Cardiff University. These short episodes bridge practice, creativity, and classroom learning, helping prepare young people for the social, environmental, and economic challenges of the future.

Throughout 2024, TET participated in a range of speaking engagements and think tank discussions, including presentations for the Archimake's talk series at Templar Trust in March, contributing to the London School of Architecture Future Skills Think

Tank in July, and presenting at Stanton Williams in October outlining TET's origins and strategic vision. These reflect our commitment to strengthening social value in the built environment and fostering leadership in child and youth engagement.

In autumn 2024, TET expanded the team by appointing two part-time posts - Project Manager and Project Coordinator to grow the Inspire Awards programme and develop structured fundraising. Fundraising Consultant Sally Stott was engaged to review grant applications and improve funding strategies. Our network of Associates also grew, including extending a paid post-internship position for a 3 month period.

Through our programmes, partnerships, and thought leadership, Thornton Education Trust continues to champion the integration of architecture within education, inspiring the next generation to understand, shape, and improve the built environment that surrounds them.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Victoria Thornton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

Victoria Thornton, OBE
Chair and Founder

THORNTON EDUCATION TRUST CIO
REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

TRUSTEES REPORT

The Trustees are pleased to present their Annual Report together with the Financial Statements of the Charity for the period from 1st January to 31st December 2024.

The Financial Statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the constitution, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

The Charity is a Public Benefit Entity.

Objectives and Activities

The advancement of education in the subject of architecture and urban design for children and young people through creative learning, the provision of grants, resources and research to support teachers, educationalists and built environment professionals

Beneficiaries of our Activities

The primary beneficiaries of our activities are educationalists, built environment professionals and teachers and through them the future generation's children and young people

Achievements and Performance

This was our fourth year of Thornton Education Trust and continued the expansion of the Inspire Future Generations Awards developing new categories relevant to empowering the future generations to have a voice in their present and future environment.

In addition, the republication of the updated Empowering Environments taking in 2021-24 awards results.

Our network continues to grow with 2500 strong through our regular TET Newsletter.

Future Plans

Inspire Future Generations Awards – Five Years On

As we reach the five-year milestone, we will undertake a comprehensive review of the award categories and evaluate how effectively we are promoting youth voices in the design process. We will explore new and alternative forms of practice that encourage inclusive city-making and urge urban practitioners to address gaps in research by adopting innovative approaches across the sector. Our aspiration is that what is considered pioneering today becomes standard practice tomorrow.

Network Development

We plan to broaden and strengthen our network by expanding beyond our newsletters to actively engage through social media channels, with a particular focus on LinkedIn as a platform for fostering new collaborations and connections.

Website Enhancement

Our website remains a vital communication tool, and we will review and enhance it to better showcase our publications, surveys, and initiatives.

Imagine Schools Programme

Pending initial funding, we are preparing to launch the Imagine Schools Programme which will include INSETS, an Awards Scheme and Resource Bank to further integrate built environment education within the school curricula.

Programme Leadership and Sustainability

To support our expanding portfolio of initiatives, we intend to create a part-time Programme Director role responsible for developing future programmes and securing funding.

Additionally, we will review and revise our Sponsorship and Friends Scheme to ensure organisational sustainability and to open new funding avenues for development over the 2026–2027 period. The Board has approved extending this planning horizon following a review of our current five-year strategy.

THORNTON EDUCATION TRUST CIO
REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Financial Review

Thornton Education Trust is entirely dependent upon voluntary income mostly in the form of grants from trusts and foundations, sponsorship and other income. During the reported period income from charitable activities amounted to £15,039 whilst donations and legacies amounted to £4,100

Expenditure was £8,666 was entirely spent on delivering the charitable activities.

The closing balance at year end 2024 was £16,775.00 unrestricted reserves. There is a reserves policy of 3 months overheads although the Trustees maintain a policy of not committing expenditure before funds are in place. They believe that these reserves together with good prospects for further fundraising are sufficient to ensure the continuing activities of the charity.

Reporting requirements for charities that fundraise

All income generation activities are undertaken in compliance with the requirements of: the Fundraising Regulator; Charities Acts; Charity Commission regulations; HMRC regulations; the Gambling Act; local licensing laws, GDPR and Data Protection legislation. This list is not exhaustive.

We adhere to the Fundraising Code of Practice.

During the year ending 31 December 2024, we received no complaints relating to fundraising activity. Furthermore, we know of no failure by the charity or by a person acting on its behalf, to comply with fundraising standards.

Governance and Management

Governing document

Thornton Education Trust is a registered charity governed by a constitution. The charity was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 22 September 2020 by the Charities Commission

Governance

The trustees undertake periodic reviews of governance and these include skills audits for the current board. When a vacancy occurs on the trustee board it will be advertised via appropriate media, with an indication of the skills that are sought. Applicants are invited to apply by CV and covering letter with suitable candidates interviewed. A recommendation to appoint a suitable candidate will be put to the whole board for their approval.

The Charity is managed by the Board of Trustees which meets at least 2 times per year.

Risk management

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. The Trustees are mindful of this and put policies and controls in place to mitigate risks as appropriate and to be reviewed in 2025.

THORNTON EDUCATION TRUST CIO
REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name Thornton Education Trust CIO

Charity Number 1191408

Trustees

Victoria Thornton, OBE Chair (Reappointed 30th September 2024 for a term of 4 years)

Kenneth Allinson, RIBA

Neil Pinder

Trustees Remuneration and Benefits

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the period ended 30 November 2024

Trustees Expenses

Victoria Thornton £95 during the period ended 31 December 2024. These relate to travel expenses paid on behalf of Thornton Education Trust

Staff Costs

There were no employees during the period ended 31 December 2024

Tangible Fixed Assets

There were no fixed assets.

Debtors Amounts falling due within one

There were no debtors.

Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

There were no creditors.

Related Party Disclosures

No related party disclosures

Registered Address 8 Vineyards, Bath BA1 5NA

Bankers CAFBank



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Thornton Education Trust

On accounts for the year
ended

31st December 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1191408

Set out on pages

1 and 2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/12/2025**.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: Mark Richardson

Date: 30th May 2025

Name: Mark Richardson

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

ACA

Address:

16 Maple Grove, Bath BA2 3AF

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.



Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
01/01/2024

To

Period end date
31/12/2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Charitable Activities	15,026		-	15,026	16,706
Donations and Legacies	4,100	-	-	4,100	3,300
Other income	13	-	-	13	635
Refunds	-	-	-	-	16
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	19,139	-	-	19,139	20,657
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	19,139	-	-	19,139	20,657
A3 Payments					
Advertising and promotion	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities costs	5,500	-	-	5,500	21,304
Fundraising	198	-	-	198	1,320
IT	927	-	-	927	742
Office expenses	930	-	-	930	776
Travel and Accommodation	95	-	-	95	115
PAYE	1,016	-	-	1,016	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	8,666	-	-	8,666	24,257
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	8,666	-	-	8,666	24,257
Net of receipts/(payments)	10,473	-	-	10,473	- 3,600
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	6,302	-	-	6,302	9,902
Cash funds this year end	16,775	-	-	16,775	6,302

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Current	16,775	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	16,775	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-

	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

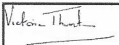

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
Salary	Unrestricted	2,500	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Victoria Thornton	28/05/2025
	Kenneth Allinson	28/05/2025