

**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1191408**

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR

THE PERIOD 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025 TO 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025

FOR

THORNTON EDUCATION TRUST

### **Forward from Chair**

Thornton Education Trust aims to advance education and youth engagement in architecture and the built environment by combining research, programmes, and sector-wide collaboration so that children and young people learn about and have real influence over the places that shape their lives.

### **Year in review: 2025**

2025 was a year of consolidation and growth for Thornton Education Trust, with progress across awards, research, resources, and curriculum-focused activity.

#### Inspire Future Generations Awards and community of practice

- Delivered the fifth Inspire Future Generations Awards, further strengthening TET's position as a reference point for youth engagement in the built environment.
- Used the growing body of submissions and case studies to deepen a sector-wide community of practice, connecting practitioners, educators, and clients interested in meaningful involvement of children and young people.

#### Research and publications

- Updated and published *Empowering Environments*, drawing on four years of IFG Awards submissions to map areas of greatest activity, geographical reach, and funding opportunities, and to highlight gaps where children and young people's voices are still under-represented.
- Updated and republished the *Learning Environments Report*, identifying UK Schools of Architecture that integrate outreach to children and young people within their training, and showcasing models that can be expanded and replicated.

#### Resources, tools, and capacity building

- Continued to update and refine the ENGAGE Toolkit, ensuring it reflects current best practice and supports practitioners and educators in involving young people in real-world projects, planning, and decision-making.
- Began development of a Resource Bank informed by IFG and other programmes, creating a growing repository of case studies and guidance for use by teachers, built environment professionals, and partners.

#### Dialogue, networks, and thought leadership

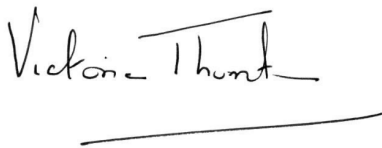
- Extended the TET Dialogues series, facilitating exchanges between educationalists and built environment professionals. 2025 highlights included an in-person Urban Planners event hosted by Hawkins\Brown and an online Learning Environments dialogue.

- Maintained a regular newsletter, profiling TET's work alongside external projects and programmes, helping to knit together a wider network committed to youth engagement in the built environment.

#### Education and the Imagine Programme

- Built on the 2023 pilot awards scheme (initially Architecture into Education) supported by Twelve Healers, refining it for the development of the upcoming 2026 Imagine Awards to better reflect teachers' and collaborators' needs.
- Planned the first Imagine Awards cycle during Autumn 2025, ensuring alignment with curriculum priorities and school timetables.
- Developed and launched teacher training content, including a workshop now available via TET's YouTube channel, aimed at supporting educators to embed architectural thinking, creativity, and citizenship into everyday classroom practice.

Across these strands, TET in 2025 continued to shift from isolated projects to a more connected ecosystem of awards, research, tools, and training – strengthening the foundations for systemic change in how children and young people engage with, and help shape, their built environment.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Victoria Thornton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. Below the signature is a long, horizontal, slightly wavy line that serves as a decorative underline.

Victoria Thornton, OBE  
Chair and Founder

THORNTON EDUCATION TRUST CIO  
REPORT AND ACCOUNTS  
FOR PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

## **TRUSTEES REPORT**

The Trustees are pleased to present their Annual Report together with the Financial Statements of the Charity for the period from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025.

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 in 2025**

In 2025, Thornton Education Trust consolidated its role as a leading advocate for youth engagement in the built environment.

The fifth Inspire Future Generations Awards expanded our community of practice and generated a richer evidence base, directly informing the updated Empowering Environments report and the development of a new resource bank.

The ENGAGE Toolkit and TET Dialogues series were further strengthened, providing practical support and peer learning for educators and built environment professionals, while our regular newsletter helped maintain and grow an active network. We also progressed the Imagine Awards and associated teacher training, building on the earlier pilot to move closer to embedding architectural thinking and pupil voice within the school curriculum.

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

### **Future Plans**

Over the coming years, Thornton Education Trust will focus on strengthening the ways children and young people influence real decisions about the places where they live, learn, and play.

We will build on our existing programmes to generate a stronger evidence base, share models of effective practice, and support wider adoption across schools, universities, and the built environment sector.

Our youth-focused awards and research will be used to surface and spread approaches that improve confidence, skills, and agency among young people while raising standards of engagement among professionals and clients. In parallel, we will expand our toolkits, teacher training, and dialogue

platforms so that more educators and practitioners can embed architectural thinking and pupil voice in their work, helping to shift norms, policy, and curricula towards meaningful, long-term youth participation in shaping the built environment.

The Imagine Awards and associated training workshops for teachers will play a key role in this next phase. By recognising innovative, curriculum-linked projects and providing practical, example-led training, the programme will support teachers to use architecture and place as a framework for creativity, citizenship, and problem-solving in the classroom. Over time, we aim for these awards and workshops to help normalise built-environment learning in schools, creating a growing cohort of confident educators who champion children's voices and integrate real-world spatial issues into their teaching.

THORNTON EDUCATION TRUST CIO  
REPORT AND ACCOUNTS  
FOR PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

## 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 year ended 31 December 2025, total receipts amounted to £51,155, comprising £45,075 from charitable activities, £6,058 from donations and legacies, and £22 from other income. Total payments were £48,568, all relating to the delivery and support of our charitable activities, resulting in a net surplus of £2,587 for the year.

Cash funds increased from £16,774 at 31 December 2024 to £19,361 at 31 December 2025, comprising unrestricted funds of £16,772 and restricted funds of £2,589.

The charity holds no fixed assets, investments, or debtors, and creditors at the year end relate to routine salary and payroll liabilities only.<sup>[1][2]</sup>

There is a reserves policy of holding approximately three months' overheads, and 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.<sup>[3]</sup>

### 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 2025, 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 2026.

**Reference and Administrative Details**

Charity Name Thornton Education Trust CIO

Charity Number 1191408

Trustees

Victoria Thornton, OBE Chair

Kenneth Allinson, RIBA

Neil Pinder

THORNTON EDUCATION TRUST  
Registered Charity Number: 1191408

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES  
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank and in hand		19,361	16,774
		-----	-----
Total current assets		19,361	16,774
		-----	-----
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	1	1,275	
		-----	-----
Total current liabilities		1,275	
		-----	-----
NET CURRENT ASSETS		18,086	16,774
		=====	=====
TOTAL NET ASSETS		18,086	16,774
		=====	=====
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY			
Unrestricted funds:			
General fund		16,772	16,774
Restricted funds:	2	2,589	-----
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS		18,086	16,774
		=====	=====

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 21 March 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

Victoria Thornton, OBE  
Chair of Trustees

Kenneth Allinson  
Trustee

Date: 21/03/2026

Date: 21/03/2026

## NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

### 1. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
PAYE and National Insurance	1,275	
	-----	-----
Total	1,275	
	=====	=====

### 2. RESTRICTED FUNDS

The restricted funds comprise grants received for the delivery of specific charitable activities as defined by the funders:

Balance at 1 January 2025	-
Incoming resources:	
Inspire Future Generations Awards	7,500
Imagine Programme	4,000
	-----
Total incoming	11,500
Resources expended:	
Inspire Future Generations Awards	(7,500)
Imagine Programme	(1,411)
	-----
Total expended	(8,911)
	-----
Balance at 31 December 2025	2,589
	=====

The balance of £2,589 relates to the Imagine Programme and will be expended in 2026 in accordance with the grant terms.

### 3. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

Balance at 1 January 2025	16,774
Incoming resources	39,655
Resources expended	(39,657)
	-----
Balance at 31 December 2025	16,772
	=====

### 4. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Cash at bank and in hand	17,047	2,589	19,361
Current liabilities	(1,275)	-	(1,275)
	-----	-----	-----
Net assets at 31 December 2025	16,772	2,589	18,086
	=====	=====	=====

### 5. BASIS OF PREPARATION

These financial statements have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with Section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008.



The charity has taken advantage of the exemptions in the Charities SORP FRS 102 from the requirement to prepare a Statement of Financial Activities and to comply with certain disclosure requirements applicable to accounts prepared under the accruals basis, as permitted for charities with gross income below £250,000. All amounts are rounded to the nearest pound sterling.

#### 6. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no related party transactions during the year (2024: £nil).

#### 7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

No trustees received any remuneration during the year (2024: £nil).

One trustee was reimbursed expenses totalling £608 during the year (2024: £nil). These expenses related to travel costs incurred in connection with fundraising and other charitable activities undertaken on behalf of the charity.

#### 8. STAFF COSTS

The charity employed staff on a part-time basis during the year. Total staff costs (including PAYE and employer's National Insurance contributions) amounted to £12,872 (2024: £1,016). The average number of employees during the year was 1 (2024: 0.1 FTE). No employee received total employee benefits of more than £60,000.

#### 9. TAXATION

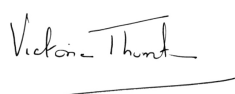
The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation on its charitable activities under Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 and Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992.

THORNTON EDUCATION TRUST  
Registered Charity Number: 1191408

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES  
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

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Date: 21/03/2026



Kenneth Allinson  
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**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Thornton Education Trust

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

31<sup>st</sup> December 2025

**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:** 24<sup>th</sup> March 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.**





CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Thornton Education Trust

1191408

CC16a

## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period  
from

Period start date  
01/01/2025

To

Period end date  
31/12/2025

### 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 £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Charitable Activities	33,575	11,500	-	45,075	15,026
Donations	6,058	-	-	6,058	4,100
Bank Interest	22	-	-	22	13
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>39,655</b>	<b>11,500</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>51,155</b>	<b>19,139</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>39,655</b>	<b>11,500</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>51,155</b>	<b>19,139</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities costs	23,434	8,911	-	32,345	5,500
Fundraising	456	-	-	456	198
IT	2,626	-	-	2,626	927
Office expenses	1,219	-	-	1,219	930
Travel and Accommodation	244	-	-	244	95
Wages	11,677	-	-	11,677	1,016
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>39,657</b>	<b>8,911</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>48,568</b>	<b>8,666</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>39,657</b>	<b>8,911</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>48,568</b>	<b>8,666</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>- 2</b>	<b>2,589</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,587</b>	<b>10,473</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>16,774</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,774</b>	<b>6,302</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>16,772</b>	<b>2,589</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>19,361</b>	<b>16,775</b>

### 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 £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Current	16,772	2,589	-

			-
	-	-	-
<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>16,772</b>	<b>2,589</b>	<b>-</b>

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

OK

OK

OK

**Unrestricted funds**  
to nearest £

**Restricted funds**  
to nearest £

**Endowment funds**  
to nearest £

**Details**

## B2 Other monetary assets

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

**Details**

## B3 Investment assets

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

**Details**

## B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

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

**Details**

## B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
PAYE and National Insurance	Unrestricted	1,275	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

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

Signature

Print Name

Date of approval

Victoria Thornton
Kenneth Allinson

Victoria Thornton

Kenneth Allinson

21-Mar-26

21-Mar-26