

What is TET?

Thornton Education Trust (TET) is a not for profit established in 2021 to embed architecture and urban design in children's education and giving a voice to young people within their place through youth-led design and community participation.

Why was TET set up?

*'Children and adults alike often feel alienated and distanced from the decision-making processes that affect their environment and day-to-day lives'.
Amica Dall of Assemble*

TET's goal is to inspire urban designers, developers, regeneration professionals, local authorities, housing associations and other organisations to embed youth participation in their strategies and projects. We seek to reinforce, highlight and build best practice.

As future citizens, young people have a critically important stake in how buildings and spaces are shaped. But their voices are rarely heard in decisions about urban design.

A bottom-up approach to shaping buildings and places – centred on youth participation and co-design or within a school setting – can help to build the next generation of civic-minded, design-conscious people, including future clients.

In addition there is evidence that they benefit considerably from creative learning about the built environment, helping them develop life skills be it teamworking, motivation, critical thinking and problem-solving.

But this is still hampered by a lack of sharing knowledge and best practice across and beyond the architecture and built environment industries.

With your help, we aim to close this gap by recognising and supporting the work of built environment professionals, practitioners and educationalists, developing a body of research to evidence this need and create a roadmap of practical solutions.

How will this be achieved?

The specific ways are through:

- Professional peer to peer online networks
- Awards programme for practitioners, built environment professionals and teachers around the world already working in this area
- TET Dialogues - monthly knowledge sharing zoom events.
- Building a permanent research resource bank which will have online case studies, toolkits, other guidance and examples of best practice.

Online masterclasses ('TET Dialogues') and e-learning programmes:

Built environment professionals across public and private sectors discuss their approach to youth engagement in the planning, design and delivery of projects, how they have made a difference, and the lessons learned.

In 2023 our monthly series of online TET Dialogues explore topics such as designing better future homes for young people, creating public spaces for young people and STEM in creative learning. Later in 2023 we will expand this programme to include teachers and educationalists.

Annual awards:

TET launched its inaugural Inspiring Future Generations Awards in June 2021, to recognise built environment professionals, educationalists and organisations who have made a difference in showing how children and young people can benefit from engaging in architecture and urban design.

The awards both celebrate achievement and build capacity in this neglected area by showcasing best practice. **The Inspire Future Generations Awards scheme, now in its third year and the Architecture into Education Awards.**

Online resource:

Building an online resource for practitioners, including world-class architectural learning activities and studies coming out of the awards submissions, as well as our own articles and research to inform pedagogy and practice.

Social Value Company Plan Surgery:

These are intended to help companies which are looking to develop a Social Value Plan to include a specific element for children and young people.

What impact will TET have?

Our ultimate vision is of a society where urban design is an inspiring and positive force improving the lives of current and future generations. Our goals are therefore to:

- improve and encourage youth-led design across the built environment
- inspire future generations of placemakers
- encourage joined-up thinking and sharing of resources
- capacity build within the sector
- influence changes to policy

Why support?

Through becoming a partner or supporter of TET you can:

- highlight your work in helping to create a better built environment that is inclusive, child- and youth-friendly and safe, and supports wellbeing
- demonstrate your long-term commitment to ensuring the needs and voices of children and young people are brought into design and decision-making processes
- promote best practice in youth engagement in urban design and planning
- share your innovation and leadership with your peers
- demonstrate your social responsibility
- gain access to a network of like-minded professionals with experience and expertise of working with young people on design projects



Partners and Sponsors Benefits

Thornton Education Trust is grateful for contributions from partners and sponsors to support our year-round work advancing quality in architectural education, and benefit from association with an exciting new programme of work.

Sponsor Benefits:

→ **£2,500 (p.a.)**

- Association with a new charity that recognises and supports innovation in youth and young persons engagement
- Opportunity to profile your work through speakers panel at one TET Dialogue event
- TET Founder speaking at company's internal/client event
- Invitations to virtual and physical events
- Invitations to the annual Awards reception (live event) and online TET Dialogues
- Logo and weblink on the TET website, newsletters, and event collateral

Partner Benefits:

→ **£5,000 (p.a.)**

As above plus:

- ‘Your Company’s Social Value Journey’ TET Dialogues webinar
- Leadership article in TET E-News
- Client/board dining opportunities with TET Founder in attendance
- Opportunity to host a dinner with invited guests from TET networks
- Member of TET Soundings Board for future activities, events and TET Roadmap
- Name/logo on press releases and mention of company’s work where relevant to articles produced by TET.

Corporate Friend

£500/£200 (p.a.) (over 20 staff £500/ under £200)

Further information, please contact: info@thorntoneducationtrust.org