

A blurred background image of a male lecturer in a grey blazer and blue shirt, wearing glasses and gesturing with his right hand while standing at the front of a lecture hall. The audience is seated in rows of wooden desks, seen from behind, looking towards the lecturer.

RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

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What research did we carry out whilst setting up the company?

We have a private page on the website where our research is. Weekly, we looked at what was happening in the world in the form of a weekly blog. Some examples of what was covered are: COP26 and then the aftermath, the Earthshot Prize, CNDG Nottingham, and what will the planning guidance look like in 2028. These show us what is relevant in the world right now so we can cater to this. We have developed the theme of circular economy as well as carbon neutral designs as a result of seeing the ongoing Environmental crisis and the events and regulations that are proposed to try and counteract this.

Circular Economy

We researched the concept of Circular economy through online research and undertaking case studies such as the Cork House. We did this to understand the type of materials and processes such as dry joins used to create a circular economy so we could apply it to our own design.

Small, Medium and Large Precedent Studies

We decided on creating Small, Medium and Large 'packages' to detail the different approaches we will take to different scale of buildings as they will need different materials etc. For this we looked at 3 different precedents to see if the plans we had were achievable.

Materials

We carried out research on 'How timber can save the world' and 'what materials to use for what components and where do we get them from' to ensure we choose the right material for our structures as well as locating a local source to try and keep the embodied Carbon low.

Sustainability

We looked at materials and the concepts of Biophilia, Passivhaus and Circular Economy for our building designs to ensure they are consistent with our Ethos. We also looked at how to make our website and our business more sustainable which may not be something we can achieve initially, but we aim to implement the ideas in the future.

Training

For training, we looked at CPD training and the Sustainability in Enterprise scheme, as we all need to keep up to date with CPD training and the SIE scheme is a great opportunity to access a grant to implement any carbon reduction recommendations suggested in the scheme.

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CPD training

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) is something that we here at Infinity Studio must undertake in order to learn while we work and keep up with the high standards of our team as well as the everchanging regulations in the architecture industry.

Our team is obligated to undertake specific CPD requirements as RIBA Members. This includes:

Undertaking at least 35 hours of relevant learning each year

- Making sure half of your CPD is structure, whether this is face to face course, distance learning, or online
- Sending at least 20 of the 35 hours on the 10 mandatory RIBA Core Curriculum CPD topics (two hours per topic)
- Acquiring at least 100 learning points, reflecting your own assessment of what you got out of the activity
- Recording and keeping track of your CPD activities using the RIBA CPD recording tool

(RIBA, n.d.)

We recognise the importance of keeping up to date with changes in the industry and growing as Architects. CPD training allows us to stay passionate about our jobs and our Ethos while continuing to show us the importance of client satisfaction and regulation.

Some courses that we will attend over the next 12 months:



Passivhaus: On demand Club Ticket

English (GB)  Learning path



Planning update: what is good design and how to interpret and deliver it

Available for 12 Months

English (GB)  On demand



Practice Clinic: Growing a small practice

17 Nov 2021 16:00 to 17 Nov 2021 17:30

English (GB)  Webinar



Low carbon design: fuel poverty, indoor environment solutions and health

Available for 12 Months

English (GB)  On demand



Sustainable design: high performance, human centred, healthy design

Available for 12 Months

English (GB)  On demand



Ethical practice: challenges and rewards

Available for 12 Months

English (GB)  On demand

CLICK THE LINK TO SEE EXTRA RESEARCH

https://11f0b6be-13f7-4f31-b8f2-203d7934a6bd.filesusr.com/ugd/469763_e3047586e17b4a37b3b3fb2a8b2cf841.pdf

RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

Sustainability In Enterprise



“The Sustainability in Enterprise (SiE) programme provides fully funded support and grants to reduce the carbon emissions of eligible Nottingham small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). SiE will help businesses improve their environmental performance across four key areas: People, Products, Processes and Premises.”

To us, educating others on how to become sustainable is just as important as designing buildings for the environment. We have been looking at many ways for us to provide education to others and the SiE programme allows us to directly take on new graduates and show them how to work with carbon in mind. This also gives us the chance to stay educated on ways we can make our company more sustainable and to continue to follow our overall Ethos.

What the sustainability in enterprise provides?

Grants for Graduates

Free recruitment support and a 20% grant towards the cost of hiring a university graduate on a 12-month placement

Workshop Programmes

Built in-house capacity to manage your carbon emissions via our bespoke carbon management programmes for SMEs, and develop graduate employees to develop sustainability advocates through our early careers development programme.

Sustainability Consultancy

Sustainability Consultancy from NTU professional and academic staff and students to help you understand and reduce your carbon emissions.

Carbon Reduction Grants

Receive up to £5,000 support to implement carbon reduction recommendation from your consultancy. The grant funds 40% of the overall cost.

Educating others

At Infinity Studio we think that it is just as important for us to educate other people on the positive changes that they can make to help the environment rather than us keeping our research private and only applying it to our designs. The difference we make needs to be done at a scale larger than just our company, so any information we can spread on the climate crisis crucial.

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Hosting Events

A way in which we plan to spread positive information about sustainability is by giving lectures as well as conducting research into how we can hold larger scale sustainable events in the future. We want to be able to educate both Architects and individuals about how they can make a difference and open their eyes to the impact that we are having on the world.

Lectures

Location

As our company is based in Nottingham, utilising both University Campuses is pertinent. These buildings are already set up to host large numbers of people with the technology already in place for any presentation we may have. This location also gives us easy access from as our office is within walking distance (no impact on the environment through travel)

Who

Our Lectures would be open to the general public to allow themselves to be educated on any topic we are discussing. We feel that everybody should have the privilege of learning.

Structure

The structure of our lectures would mainly be an information education-based activity, that goes in depth with information about the topic. This would stretch over a one-hour period, with the opportunity for feedback and discussions.

Lecture Structure

- Introduce Infinity Studio, who we are and what we believe [10 minutes]
- Introduce the topic of the lecture and related current world news [10 minutes]
- Open up discussion to audience about opinions and knowledge on lecture topic [5 minutes]
- Feedback from this discussion [5 minutes]
- Information and teaching about the topic (as well as links to our company) [20 minutes]
- Any questions or feedback from audience [10 minutes]

Upcoming Lectures



https://drive.google.com/file/d/1r1WPBqRr5Fr_wH5jGofhMeEwkVRllsOK/view?usp=sharing

Future Events

Another way in which we could network through Nottingham is by hosting bigger events. Through our start-up years we will research how we can host these events as well as where is the ideal place in Nottingham is to have them. As well as Infinity Studios holding a number of workshops and discussions through the events, it could house stalls that support small and local sustainable businesses around Nottingham. This uses them as a way to encourage people to buy ethically and brings all kinds of different people (target markets) together to educate them about the ways in which they can make a difference.

Local Sustainable Businesses:



STRATEGIES AND TACTICS

STRATEGIES	TACTICS
To produce a material type and building design that supports our ethos.	Research into suitable materials and circular economy precedents.
Working closely with students at local Universities.	Plan monthly lectures in NTU and UoN.
Have superior knowledge of sustainability.	Attend courses on sustainability.
Stay up to date with our 30hr CPD training.	Plan what courses each member will attend over the next year.
Stay up to date with legislation.	Regularly attend topics 4 and 5 of CPD training.
Provide education on sustainability for others.	Sustainability in enterprise, Blog and lectures for everyone.
Learn how to be a circular company.	Research environmental issues In the office and how to combat them. Invest in equipment that is environmentally friendly.
Stay educated on current issues.	Weekly research on world news.