

**The original vision** for TG Escapes from founders Richard and Kath was to create natural spaces that help reduce energy and enhance well-being. It started with high quality garden offices providing environmentally sensitive, energy efficient working space that reduced the need to commute. Since then, the company has grown to offer the same benefits in education, healthcare, leisure and business.

**Accessibility** we aim to provide documentation that is accessible to all stakeholders by ensuring the use of a plain sans serif font with a minimum size of 12 points.

**Well-being** is at the forefront of our designs. The use of timber, large floor to ceiling windows and doors, covered deck areas and sun-pipes produces buildings which are good, healthy spaces for their occupants. In education specifically they promote outdoor learning, environmental citizenship, while [reducing the risk of Myopia](#), and enhancing educational outcomes. Timber classrooms have been proven to reduce stress amongst students versus traditional classrooms as evidenced by a 2007 study '[Schools without stress](#)' by [Weitzer Parkett and proHolz](#) of Austria.

The active ventilation systems maintain thermal and acoustic comfort and reducing CO2 levels and disease transmission. Offsite manufacturing reduces the time required to construct on-site which has the benefit of reducing disruption and stress for all users of the site, along with significantly reducing construction-related health and safety risk exposures experienced when using traditional building techniques.

**Sustainable materials** combined with sophisticated technologies produce buildings which are sensitive to the environment. All buildings are designed net-zero in operation. They also have a small carbon footprint so with appropriate offsetting can be net-zero carbon in their lifetime. The modular system keeps transportation energy down and the use of timber means we have a high proportion of the sequestered embodied carbon. TG Escapes are underway with a certification programme with the Carbon Trust so that all customers can have their buildings certified to PAS 2060.

**Our education mission** is to provide better spaces for better futures. We also support educators directly with students by working directly with schools to engage students in the design and construction process. During the COVID-19 lockdowns we worked with a large publisher to run a national design competition for students to design the ideal outdoor learning centre. We have supported the National Enterprise Challenge which successfully engages students in business through a national competition. We have also published the white papers '[The outdoor environment: How can our children learn to care about their futures?](#)', and '[The Outdoor Environment in Secondary School: Understanding nature deficit and environmental citizenship at KeyStage 3 and Key Stage 4.](#)' .

We run a [tree planting programme through EcoMatcher](#) where we gift trees and forests to schools which their students can adopt, track and chat to their own tree via an app. We also provide a free 'Tree Planting Pack' to every school with a building proposal, containing lesson plans, posters, acorns to plant and badges to help engage students in sustainability.

This project has three aims:

- Engage students in the challenges facing the planet and increase their awareness of the need for sustainable living

- Help support schools in their Rights Respecting Schools agenda by supporting farmers and their families in Uganda
- Offset a proportion of the schools' carbon emissions – each tree will absorb 250Kg of CO2 over its lifetime.

We have initiated a project to build a complete school, partnering with an educationalist to build a carbon neutral setting which has well-being and outdoor learning as its central ethos.

**Local employment** has always been important to TG Escapes and the team includes colleagues who have been involved from day 1 in 2003. Based in Coventry the business has created employment opportunities for over 100 individuals. We have 4 active apprenticeships amongst our core team of 27. Our employees benefit from clear HR policies and ongoing training programmes. Our published shared values are;

- Stay safe
- Deliver all we promise
- We are family
- People and planet first
- Good enough is not enough

Finally, in an industry that has a poor reputation for customer service and delivering on time and budget, we are proud of our reputation: 156 customers have rated us at 4.9 out of 5. For all our customers we deliver a high-quality product and a stress-free experience providing peace of mind and the confidence that they can leave us to manage the whole process while they can get on with their most important day jobs.



Richard Harvey, Chief Executive Officer, January 4<sup>th</sup> 2021