

Devonshire Educational Trust

2015 annual review



The Devonshire Educational Trust (DET) is a charity driven to provide diverse and accessible educational opportunities and activities throughout the Devonshire Group

The charity was established in 2004 to enhance the educational experiences of children and young people visiting the Chatsworth Estate. We are proud to be able to offer a diverse range of opportunities to learn about matters of historical, artistic and architectural interest as well as to find out more about the countryside and rural landscape. Through guided, self-guided and specialist education packages the DET aims to provide quality education that reaches all backgrounds and abilities.



DET Trustees

- The Duke of Devonshire
- Lord Burlington
- Peter Bostock
- Dianne Jeffrey
- Emma Sayer



DET Employees

- Sara Main, Education Development Manager
- Harriet Hempshall, Education Officer
- Rachel Parkin, Education Assistant
- Dinah Beare, Higher Education Development Officer



Chatsworth House, Garden, Farmyard and Adventure Playground



Educational visitor numbers

In 2015 Chatsworth received 19,545 educational visitors across the house, garden, farmyard and adventure playground.

68% of educational visitors chose to make a self-guided visit to the attractions. To support such visits we have downloadable resource packs and seasonal trails, as well as our friendly and knowledgeable staff located throughout the house and in the farmyard.

Visits to the attractions can support a range of subjects within formal learning, including history, art, science, architecture, business, leisure and tourism. Educational visitors range from pre-school pupils through to Higher Education and Postgraduate students.



2015 was a particularly exciting year for education at Chatsworth, as we received a Sandford Award for heritage education. The Sandford Award judge commented that Chatsworth's education programme "goes way beyond the obvious treasure house, including a wide-ranging programme of education for schools in a stunningly beautiful setting that cannot fail to inspire people of all ages".

Tours and activities

Across the house, garden and farmyard a range of activities continue to be offered. In 2015 the addition of the Stickyard outdoor education centre has enabled the outdoor education programme to grow.

The house explorers' tour offers links to history or art, with our annual schedule of events and exhibitions providing a continually changing area of study to suit a range of educational audiences. For secondary, further and higher education pupils business studies and leisure and tourism tours provide the opportunity to construct case studies covering a range of curriculum orientated themes.





The farmyard and adventure playground also continues to offer a range of curriculum relevant tours and activities, linking the farm animals and their lifecycles with the animal products we use and eat. During the Christmas season the farmyard nativity performances for school groups continue to be very popular, creating 51% of educational visits in November and December across the attractions.

The Stickyyard has created a base for our growing outdoor education programme which utilises the special landscape of the garden, woodland and wider estate. The programme links the rich and varied woodland and garden to the science curriculum, focussing on animal habitats, plant lifecycles, plant and tree identification and sustainably managing the estate. 2016 will see the commemoration of the 300th anniversary of the birth of Lancelot 'Capability' Brown, providing opportunities to appeal to a broader audience via the Stickyyard events.



Special projects

The Devonshire Educational Trust continues to work closely in partnership with a number of local authorities, charities and educational institutions. A central means of building such partnerships has been hosting education preview events, of which we now have three firmly



established in the Chatsworth diary. Partners are invited to preview the educational offering across the house, garden, farmyard, Stickyyard and events and exhibitions. The events provide a great opportunity to share ideas and are often attended by other relevant organisations, such as the John Muir Trust and local Eco-schools Coordinator.

The Hartington fund has enabled us to financially support visits to the Chatsworth Estate for over 350 educational visitors from areas of socio-economic deprivation. The fund has supported a range of visits from primary and secondary schools, to young carers and Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) support groups. Such visits have ranged from funding self-guided visits to the house, garden or farmyard to more targeted activities such as exploring the Devonshire Collection



or the landscape of the estate. The Stickyard outdoor education centre has created a base for funded visits for partner charities such as the Children’s Heart Federation and a Sheffield based refugee project.



Prior to the opening of the Stickyard, a partnership with Tibshelf Community School and the Heritage Skills Hub saw pupils designing and building a feature wall for the new education centre. The project began with pupils taking a restoration and conservation focused tour of the house. Pupils were then given a brief to design a feature wall in keeping with the space. The pupils then presented this at

Chatsworth before beginning construction. Over a series of visits pupils worked with lead, copper, slate and shingle to construct a feature wall as well as both entrance gates and install a number of benches. The pupils then demonstrated their skills at the Stickyard opening event, welcoming attendees and providing a brief speech about their work.

Through our continuing partnership with Derbyshire County Council we have hosted two events as part of the Devonshire Project, working with looked after children. The events have included sensory activities designed to promote language skills with pre-school aged children in the farmyard and enabling children and their carers to experience the farmyard and adventure playground and the wider estate via tractor tour. In addition, we also offer a family learning event for older children, focussed on survival and determination through building dens and shelters and art activities within the Stickyard.



We are also proud to continue to support the Roche Court Educational Trust's ARTiculation prize. Our ARTiculation Discovery Day events for GCSE pupils provide a quirky opportunity designed to stimulate students' interest and understanding of art while developing individual thinking, observation, research and language skills, culminating in the opportunity to interview the Duke of Devonshire. In 2015 we have held one ARTiculation Discovery Day at

Chatsworth as well as introducing the events to Bolton Abbey and Lismore Castle Arts. The events provide a fantastic opportunity to form ongoing partnerships with local schools and, where possible, follow up activities have also been funded through the Hartington fund providing further opportunities to explore the Devonshire Collection.

Continuing our programme of artist led events, Awards for All funding has also enabled local artist Laura Ellen Bacon to conduct a series of workshops with primary and secondary schools. Pupils were able to experiment with natural resources which they had collected on a discovery walk through Stand Wood. Laura will then be using the pupils' findings to create an installation for the Stickyard, which will enable future visitors to display their work.



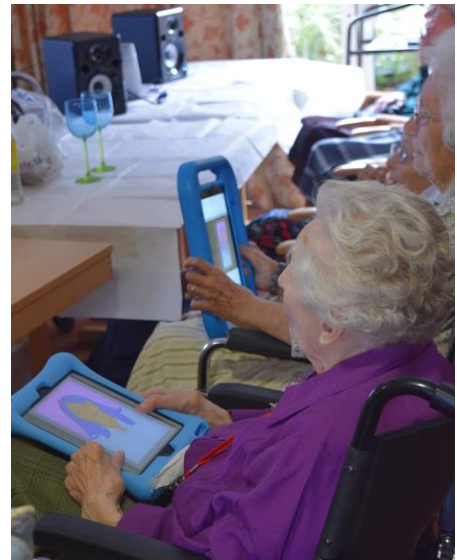
In addition to the rich and varied special projects outlined above, we have continued to build and further develop partnerships with a range of local schools and educational institutions. Teachers' preview events focusing on the house, farmyard and Stickyard and Sotheby's Beyond Limits exhibition have enabled us to promote the varied educational offerings at Chatsworth to a range of audiences. We have also visited a number of local schools, colleges and universities, as well as educational conferences to promote the range of valuable opportunities on offer at Chatsworth. Partnerships have also been created through our displays of pupils' artwork in the Carriage House restaurant and displays of scarecrows in the garden.

We have continued to work in partnership on a number of special projects with local universities, offering a variety of specialist educational tours covering topics ranging from the Chatsworth Masterplan to sustainability and green tourism at Chatsworth.

In continuation of our partnership with the University of Sheffield, three PhD students are currently on placement conducting research into the lives of servants within the Archives department. This will then be used to support events, exhibitions and educational materials such as teachers' packs. Additionally a member of the University of Sheffield staff team is currently placed on sabbatical one day per week within the education team. The placement will provide the opportunity to consider how the partnership between the two organizations can grow. Additionally the DET has appointed a Higher Education Development Officer, Dinah Beare, to continue to build partnerships and to raise the profile of the Trust with Higher Education Institutions.

A new partnership with Nottingham City Arts has led to the creation of a series of films illustrating the Duke and Duchess's favourite items from the Devonshire Collection. The films have been used to inspire a series of workshops led by art practitioners in two Nottingham care homes.

The Heritage Lottery Funded 'Legacies of War' project has enabled us to create our first outreach project. Chatsworth hosted an event commemorating the anniversary of the Gallipoli campaign for 50 local primary school pupils who created their own memorials onsite. A further 150 secondary school pupils participated in the outreach project which began with an initial research focused visit in school using archival materials. Groups were then invited to Chatsworth to present their findings, with the opportunity to explore the house and garden.



Bolton Abbey



BOLTON ABBEY

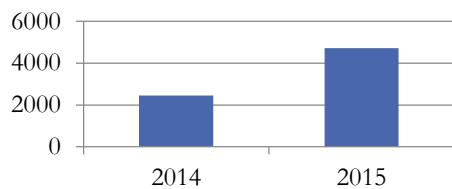
The educational offering on the North Yorkshire estate consists largely of self-guided primary school visits enjoying the outdoor learning environment. Visits range from pre-schools exploring the outdoors to Further Education students focusing on history, conservation or tourism. For such visits a small charge is made of £1 per pupil.

In addition to the introduction of the ARTiculation Discovery Day at Bolton Abbey, a series of 'Mini Explorer' family learning events have also been hosted. The family learning events have been attended by 64 students.



The Bolton Abbey team continues to work in close partnership with the church which allows the estate to offer a valuable cross curricular

Visitor numbers



experience and for schools to increase the length and value of their visit. Additionally a number of downloadable teachers' resource packs are also available via the Bolton Abbey website to encourage educational groups to fully engage with the setting. The success of this partnership has led to a 50% increase in educational visitors in 2015.

Looking forwards

In 2016 the Chatsworth Stickyard will continue to provide an exciting space to host a range of special projects. We are excited to extend our family learning and adult learning event programme to include a series of workshops hosted outside of term time. 2016 will mark the 300th anniversary of the birth of Lancelot 'Capability' Brown. With its fantastic views across the estate, the Stickyard will provide the ideal base for activities for schools.

Santander funding has enabled the Devonshire Educational Trust to take on an Education Assistant to develop activities for the Stickyard. Rachel Parkin has been appointed to the role and is experienced in both horticulture and education delivery. Rachel has a special interest in garden history and will be doing talks and walks connected to the Brown anniversary.

2016 promises to be a particularly exciting year for the ARTiculation Discovery days. The events held at Chatsworth and Bolton Abbey will feed in to the first national ARTiculation event for year 10 and 11 pupils which will be held in Leeds on 8 July 2016 and adjudicated by Lord Burlington. Additionally Lismore Castle Arts will host the 2016 ARTiculation Ireland final on 14 April 2016 and will be adjudicated by Sarah Glennie, Director of The Irish Museum of Modern Art.

