

## PCM 03 – Corporate, Social and Responsibility Policy

### 1. Company Operations

4D Studio Ltd refer to the importance of the fourth dimension or “spacetime,” combining the three spatial dimensions with time as the fourth dimension. Time adds an extra axis that represents the spatial and temporal dimensions of human interference in complex ecosystems. As Architects we try to imagine and prepare for the changes that inevitably occur over time.

Every day we create architectural quality based on innovation, experience and human values. This assures sustainable and aesthetic solutions with lasting value for clients, occupants and society. We implement community investment programmes and we encourage our operations to establish long-term partnerships focused on education (particularly architectural education) and social welfare.

Our work in areas such as sustainability, materials, digital technology, and fabrication has spanned the entire life of the practice.

### 2. Community Context

Creating positive change is at the core of our practice. Our ambition to deliver equitable, healthy, and resilient spaces is built upon experience in meaningful community engagement.

By engaging with our clients, local communities, and young people, 4D Studio Ltd enables research, education, and employment all of which contribute to a healthier London and wider region.

Our Corporate and Social Responsibility Policy is rooted within education and the career development of tomorrow’s architects, building professionals and future clients.

Fundamentally, this strategy underpins 4D Studio Ltd position within the UK market as an example of an enlightened and socially responsible business.

### 3. Key Social and Environmental Issues

A diverse and inclusive work environment is crucial to delivering on our social and environmental ambitions. Our design teams foster a culture where all voices are heard, and the best ideas are elevated. Within and across our studio we continue to advocate for ideas and talent to percolate up.

We will act to promote environmental sustainability on a local, regional, national and international level. We believe in the values of equality, tolerance and understanding across cultures and see ourselves as having an active part in the solution to the enormous social and environmental challenges that have accompanied globalisation.

### 4. Rationale

- To contribute towards the strengthening of links between education and employment
- To enable a larger contribution of our skills towards our local communities.

- To enforce our positioning as the exemplar of corporate responsibility.
- To deliver numerous business benefits.
- To package up all these activities and apply for BITC's new award, "The Community Mark" which recognises excellence in community investment.

## **5. Tactics**

By partnering with educational organisations and by opening-up the channels between them and our customers, we can engage and help a variety of age groups and educational levels.

## **6. Employee Volunteering**

Our employees have and continue to be involved in a series of broader educational programmes including:

- Student awards judging panels and volunteering for Architects for Health (AfH) and other organisations
- Presenting the architecture industry and advising on careers in construction to school-age students in the London area
- Board membership and regular volunteering programmes for the National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC)
- Board membership in the Global Practice Committee of the American Institute for Architects (AIA)
- Placement provider for the London School of Architecture for all levels of student training and qualifications. (Part 0 – Part 4)

## **7. Work Experience**

4D Studio Ltd aim to periodically host 1- or 2- week work-study programmes developed specifically for 15-18 year olds interested in a career in Architecture. We are open and interested in hearing from students across all educational authorities in London

## **8. Teaching**

Directors and employees have taught and lectured widely in the UK at the following architecture schools:

- University of Nottingham
- Cardiff University
- University of Lincoln
- University of Brighton
- The RIBA

## **9. Sourcing and Purchasing Audit**

Through our ISO 9001 certification process, our approved suppliers list is regularly reviewed. Consideration is to be given to procuring products and services from local sources and/or from disadvantaged communities.

## **10. Education**

London School of Architecture. 4D Studio Ltd are proud to be a supporter and member of the practice provider network for the London School of Architecture. 4D Studio support the LSA's new model of education that was founded in response to the fundamental changes made to funding structures. We employ student(s) to work three days a week in our studio and In doing so, we hope to help maintain a tradition of educating architects from the broadest section of society with the skills our profession and society need.