



A school for ceramics set along  
the beautiful rivers edge.

TOTNES, DEVON

THE  
CLAY  
FARM

# 01 ————— INTRODUCTION

Set on the banks of the River Dart in Totnes with views of Dartmoor, Sharpham and Totnes Castle, The Clay Yard is a vision for the development of a creative space which brings opportunities to explore the participatory practice of art, specifically working with clay.

The Clay Yard aims to reach-out to those who have an interest in self-expression, who are hoping for a way to enrich their lives and to discover and create something new.

Creative enrichment on the banks of the River Dart, Devon  
designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty



## 02 ————— COOPERATIVE & CONNECTED

In the breath-taking setting on the banks of the River Dart and within 5 minutes walk of public transport Alison has established this, her first school of ceramics in her home-town of Totnes.



It is important that the The Clay Yard offers a calm and inspiring landscape in which individuals can grow, deepen and develop their creative practice.

The space itself is designed foremost for accessibility and the inclusive environment invites and welcomes individuals from a broad and varied range of life experiences.

Alison has worked closely with key employers in the South West including the Royal Navy, South West Water, The Environment Agency and Babcock. Her work with them has enabled Alison to gain an insight into the skills and attributes that enable individuals to thrive and achieve their potential in the workplace and beyond.



### **FULFILL** ————— *your potential*

Working in a cooperative environment offers individuals opportunities to deepen their creative experience, tapping in to hidden talents and creative qualities.

### **BECOME** ————— *employable*

Resilience, perserverance, creativity and cooperation feature heavily in the field of ceramics. Develop these transferable skills and experience personal growth.

### **FEEL** ————— *included*

Addressing the barriers to participation and having knowledge of the levelling benefits of artistic practice, The Clay Yard emphasises access for all.

### **IMPROVE** ————— *wellbeing*

Experiencing the benefits of working haptically (with one's hands), helps to calm the mind and sooth the soul. Enjoy working in a beautiful setting and this caring and welcoming environment.



## 03 ——— THE FOUNDER

### Alison Hannah

*B.Sc(Hons), PGCE, MA in Education*

Alison Hannah, Studio Director and founder has worked in education for over 30 years supporting young people in their journey to employment. Alison teaches pottery in the creative community of Totnes and is an accomplished ceramicist selling and exhibiting in prestigious outlets in and around Devon.

#### AWARDS

Devon Artist  
Network Emerging  
Artist Award 2021

#### EXHIBITING

Birdwood  
House, Totnes  
Contemporary  
Passions, Harbour  
House, Kingsbridge

#### MEMBERSHIPS

- Devon Artist Network
- South Hams Arts Forum
- Craft Potters Association
- West Country Potters Association
- Salcombe Art Club (Full Member)
- Bovey Tracey Craft Festival Startup

## 04 ——— INCLUSIVE

The Clay Yard is a platform for the development of skills that improve the life-chances for those who may be experiencing challenges. The engagement of local charities and community groups is a key component in

fulfilling the aspirations for the school, offering an inclusive and welcoming space that empowers participants, building confidence and nurturing connections for those who have become withdrawn or isolated.



05

## IMPACT

“ To be truly impactful, The Clay Yard aims to change mindsets. The tutors, their pupils, the visitors, its’ members all have a part to play in actively conserving our precious resources and developing an approach that embraces all aspects of our lives from consumerism and waste, to inclusion and access ”

Alison Hannah  
Founder, The Clay Yard



### Ethics

Sustainable and ethical sourcing of materials  
Use of local clay and Devon suppliers.



### Inclusive

Working with community groups, the space aims to provide an inspiring and welcoming atmosphere.



### Environmental

A cyclic approach to production, from reclamation to renewable fuel. Minimising waste.



### Economic

Experiential learning of the production processes brings an understanding of the impact of consumerism.

## SUSTAINABLE

The cooperative and creative atmosphere of working with others creates something unique and special. The school aims to not only develop a better understanding of and respect for the materials and chemistry that underpin our work but to enable a deeper understanding of our world and how we can ethically and responsibly operate within it.

## PRACTICE



## 06 PACKAGES

### Taster Session

3 hr taster session to throw on the potters wheel or pinch a pot. Up to 10 people.

Included in cost: One 1lb pot + refreshments.

### Away Day

For up to 16 people, a full day of hand-building with a guided session on the potters wheel.

Included: Two 1lb pots, lunch\* & refreshments.

### Throw-Down Fun

A high-energy full-on 3 hr tournament for up to 16 people. Team-building and connecting for those who like a sense of competition.

### Wellbeing Short Course

3 hr pottery sessions for 3 consecutive weeks to unwind and recharge.

\*lunch hosted by the Riverside Cafe, Totnes

## 07 ENQUIRIES

The Clay Yard, Totnes offers experiential learning under expert tuition. Highly experienced expert ceramicists with considerable levels of teaching experience will guide learners to develop the core skills in ceramic practice.

### Explore Online

[www.theclayyardtotnes.co.uk](http://www.theclayyardtotnes.co.uk)

### Get in Touch

[info@theclayyardtotnes.co.uk](mailto:info@theclayyardtotnes.co.uk)  
+44 (0)1803 431221



### Ceramics for All

Courses for all levels of experience to extend and challenge.



### Throwing

Develop skills in throwing on the potters wheel. Five high-end Rohde potters wheels.



### Decoration

Slip-trailing, sgraffito, carving, sprigging and more with a beautiful range of glazes.



### Sculpture

Over 200 tools for you to shape and beautify your work.



THE  
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YARD

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