



TODMORDEN TOWN COUNCIL

GRANT APPLICATION FORM – MAXIMUM GRANT £3,000

Applicants should familiarise themselves with the Discretionary Grants Policy and award criteria before submitting their Grant application. Please complete all the highlighted boxes on this application form. We also provide a guidance document to help you with the completion of this form.

1. Contact Details

Name of Organisation	Turquoise Arts Community Interest Company
Address of Organisation	
Name of person making application	
Position in Organisation	Director
Phone Number	
Email address	
website	https://turquoisearts.org/

2. Organisation Details

2a. What type of Organisation are you? (Delete as appropriate)	
	Other (please state below) CIC – 15359284
2b. Do you have a constitution or a set of rules? (if yes, please enclose a copy of your constitution)	Yes
2c. Are you part of a larger, national or regional organisation? (If yes, please give details)	No
2d. How many trustees, volunteers and service users are there in your organisation?	We have 2 directors and an advisor/art teacher who govern the organisation.

2e. Tell us about your organisation, its aims and the work you wish to undertake and your main activities and how you encourage engagement from all sections of the Todmorden Community. (Please aim for a minimum of 200 words)
We're a non-profit arts organisation dedicated to promoting wellbeing through creativity. Through previous projects we have made strong links in the community. Our website has more information on us and some of our previous projects. https://turquoisearts.org/projects/

We would like to put on a six-week course 'Mindfulness and Art' at Tod College. The evening sessions will be 2 hours long and are based in their art room. Our idea is to have an introduction where we settle ourselves through mindfulness and then go on to produce abstract paintings.

We will promote the course through our connections, and Turquoise Arts networks: Facebook, Instagram and our website. At present Mark is teaching at Tod College and would use his contacts to reach out to community groups in Todmorden. Tod College also has a marketing strategy it uses to promote activities in the college. We will connect with 'Staying Well' and use this contact to reach people living within the Todmorden boundary. We will design leaflets and posters which will be displayed in Todmorden including areas such as Cornholme, Walsden, Stansfield, Stoodley and Langfield. We will contact local arts organisations such as Water Street Gallery and Todmorden Art Group seeing if they will publicise our course and are able to display peoples work.

The course may be of interest to some of the participants of Samatha Buddhist Meditation group that meets in the Fielden Centre and also the numerous churches in Todmorden and local mosque, Masjid-e-Hamza. We will send our posters to the main contact from these communities.

At the end of the course, we will advertise future courses by making a poster showcasing participants' work. This photomontage will also be something students will take away with them and be artistic in its own right.

2f. Will your project have any implications in respect of climate emergency and if so, how do you intend to minimise such impact?

We will be running the course in the centre of Todmorden. The college is an award-winning sustainable college, which offers a range of activities for the whole community. The college runs a number of projects to lower carbon emissions. Being in the centre of Todmorden means students and course facilitators can use public transport. The course is aimed at people living within the Todmorden boundary so people will be able to walk and cycle to the class.

In our classes we will use recycled, reclaimed, and found materials. There will be an awareness that solvents and glues need to be used mindfully. We will try to use less materials to consciously save resources. Mindful climate aware abstract art course teaches how to stay present in uncertainty and how to create without excess. Mindfulness isn't just about a personal calm it can shift how people relate to the planet and their outside world.

Recycled paper will be used where possible for leaflets and the poster at the end of the course.

2g. How will you acknowledge the assistance of Todmorden Town Council on all promotional material (Please see Section 7 below)

For this application we are happy to do a press release announcing the grant award. We will send a press release to Todmorden and Hebden Bridge Times using the Todmorden Town Council Logo.

We will post the course details and the award with the Todmorden Town Council logo on our website. Turquoise Arts has an Instagram and Facebook account where we share information on the award and the course. When using Instagram, we will tag the Council and be using the Councils official version of the crest along with it being on all posters and leaflets.

3. Project Information

3a. Which Grant are you applying for?			
Small Grant			
3b. What is the Purpose of grant request (delete as appropriate)			
	Project Delivery	Core Funding	Civic Pride
Town Centre Improvement			Accessibility and inclusivity
Community Benefit	Community Cohesion		Cultural Arts & Music
			Town Centre Event
Skill development	Economic difficulties (Subsidised places)	Health & Wellbeing	Community Room Venue Hire
Other (please state)			

3c. Project Name	Mindfulness and Abstract Art Course
3d. When will your project start?	Tuesday 24th February 2026 (7-9pm)
3e. When will your project finish?	Tuesday 21st April 2026

3f. How will your project benefit the local community within the Todmorden town boundary?
<p>The course will benefit the community within the Todmorden town boundary as it encourages creativity and wellbeing: The Mindfulness and Abstract Art course is accessible to people of all abilities, backgrounds and ages. There is no need for technical drawing skills. Abstract painting focuses on shapes, colours, and textures rather than ‘getting it right.’ This allows participants to let go of judgement and immerse themselves in the process.</p> <p>A group activity fosters connections between residents, helping to combat isolation and build community cohesion. The course will bring people together to share mindful moments through art. Participants not only gain skills in art and mindfulness but also transferable skills such as creative thinking, problem-solving, confidence and self-expression. Mindfulness is important because it helps people’s mental health and to stay present. It reduces stress and anxiety. Mindfulness combined with art helps quieten overthinking about past and future. Regular practice is linked to greater emotional balance and resilience. It improves mood and reduces ‘mental clutter’.</p> <p>To make sure as many Todmorden residents benefit from the course, all subsidised places will only be available to residents within the Todmorden Town boundary. If there are more people wanting to do the course than there are places, people living within the Town’s boundary will be prioritised.</p>

3g. Why is this project needed? What advantage will it bring to Todmorden?
<p>The advantage the Art and Mindfulness project will bring to Todmorden and why it is needed. As far as we are aware this will be first such class in the area and we are hoping that from the six classes it will become a regular course at the college. It directly helps people who may be</p>

struggling and want to turn their life around. It is not easy to let go of problems and put creativity first but it is known to change people's lives.

This course will be unique to the Todmorden area adding to its cultural appeal as a vibrant and forward-thinking town. Participants may visit shops, the market and use cafes and restaurants supporting the local economy. The course directly supports the college's regeneration as a place where lifelong learning takes place and makes Todmorden an attractive place to live and work in.

3h. How many people within the Todmorden town boundary will benefit from the project?

Initially we are able to accommodate 10 people on the course. At present the art room is small, though this may change, or we are able to use another room. Each course runs for six weeks, with a week's break after the 3rd week. We are looking to do future courses thus increasing the numbers of people who can directly benefit from the course. The number of people touched by the artwork and mindfulness is unquantifiable. At the end of the course, we will have a small exhibition in the college and see if local businesses will exhibit our work.

3i. Please include dates and venue of events if applicable (include a draft programme if available.)

The course will run on these dates.

Tuesday 24th February 2026 7-9 pm.

Tuesday 3rd March

Tuesday 10th March

Break

Tuesday 24th March 7-9pm.

Tuesday 31st March

Tuesday 7th April

The sessions will start with an Introduction to art and mindfulness.

Refreshments will be available if people want a break. In the last half hour, people will talk about their work giving positive feedback to each other, before clearing up. We will make a handout about mindfulness so that people can use it as a prompt in their everyday lives.

Wednesday 8th April - 21st April exhibiting people's work in the college and around the town.

4. Financial Information/ Project Costs

4a. Total Project Costs	£1300	
4b. Amount requested from TTC (This figure must be equal to the shortfall between Figure A. Expenditure and Figure B. Income at item 4e below).	£500	
4c. Have you previously applied for grant funding from Todmorden Town Council? (If yes please give details of grants received from the Town Council over the last 5 years.)		No
4d. Have you or this group previously applied for or received any other grant for this project? (If yes please give details below)		No
Applied to		
Dates of application		
Received from		
Date received/or due		
Amount received		

4e. Budget: This budget should be for the total cost of the activity you are applying to do. Please be as accurate as you can, as you may be asked to explain any amount which is unclear. (Please provide estimates/quotations of the proposed items of expenditure you may use as evidence on separate sheets. If you are unable to claim VAT back please ensure the gross value is put in here. And please do not round figures up)

Expenditure Description	Cost (£)
Room rent	130.68
Advertising	140.00
Art materials and learning resources	125.00
Lead Tutor and teaching assistant	600.00
Administration costs	75.00
Poster design with students work	100.00
Exhibition in college and finding businesses to display work	100.00
A. Total Expenditure (must be = to 4a: Total Project Costs)	1270.68

Other income	
Income Description	Cost (£)
5 places full pay	420.00
5 subsidised places	180.00
Contribution from own funds	170.68
B. Total Income	770.68

C. Total Grant Requested from the Town Council*	£500.00
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*This figure must be equal to the difference between Figure A and Figure B above. Please put this figure in box 4e. Amount Requested from TTC)

5. Organisation Financial Information

5a. Level of Reserves Held at application date	£600.00
5b. Bank Statement(s) Balance at application date	£2,758.74
5c. Total value of Assets Held	£0