

Sustainability Policy for Youth Theatre Ireland

Introduction

Youth Theatre Ireland is committed to fostering a sustainable and environmentally responsible future. We believe that the arts sector has a crucial role to play in promoting sustainable practices and inspiring positive change. The young people we value and represent in our work will be living with the effects of our climate decisions so it is important that Youth Theatre Ireland make positive changes with regard to our work. This policy outlines our commitment to sustainability and sets out the actions we will take to reduce our environmental impact.

Alignment with our core values

As outlined in our Strategic Plan 2021 – 2023, Youth Theatre Ireland promotes sustainability as one of our Core Values.

‘We believe in sustainable youth theatre practice, that is adaptive and responsive to local needs and that incorporates long term planning as a key goal to success.’

In support of a more sustainable and environmentally conscious way of working, Youth Theatre Ireland are committing to the following:

- **Reducing carbon emissions:** We will strive to reduce our carbon footprint by implementing energy-efficient practices, minimizing unnecessary travel, and promoting sustainable transportation options.
- **Promoting resource efficiency:** We will adopt resource-saving practices in our operations, such as recycling, waste reduction, and responsible consumption of materials.
- **Supporting environmental actions:** We will incorporate environmental considerations into our programs and initiatives, raising awareness among young people and promoting sustainable behaviours in youth theatre practice.

Specific Actions

To achieve our sustainability goals, Youth Theatre Ireland will undertake the following actions:

1. **Energy Efficiency:**
 - Encourage staff and participants to adopt energy-efficient practices, such as switching off lights and equipment when not in use.
2. **Waste Reduction and Recycling:**
 - Implement a waste management plan to reduce waste generation and increase recycling rates.
 - Promote recycling and composting initiatives among staff and participants on our programmes
3. **Youth Theatre Ireland events / programmes:**
 - Include environmental considerations when choosing workshop locations and organisations for Youth Theatre Ireland events.



- Source environmentally friendly and recyclable materials for our programmes and operations.
- 4. Sustainable Transportation:**
 - Encourage the use of public transportation, car-pooling, for attendance at Youth Theatre Ireland events.
 - Support initiatives that promote sustainable transportation options in our programmes for participating youth theatres.
- 5. Sustainability Education:**
 - Collaborate with environmental organizations to develop educational resources for our members to use with their youth theatre groups.
 - Encourage participants to engage in environmental projects and initiatives.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Youth Theatre Ireland will monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of our sustainability actions and review this policy in 2026.

Conclusion

Youth Theatre Ireland is committed to playing a leading role in promoting sustainability within the arts sector. By adopting environmentally friendly practices and raising awareness about environmental issues, we aim to create a more sustainable future for ourselves and future generations.

