

Sustainability Policy

Introduction:

DanceSyndrome is committed to promoting sustainability and our own sustainability development across our charity.

We aim to follow promote and embed good sustainability practices across our charity in order to reduce the environmental impact of all our activities and to increase the positive social, and economic impacts of our work.

We will think about our operations in terms of people, planet and profit and the changes we can implement to create long term impact.

Strategic Approach:

In line with our 3-year strategy: Vision 2025, we aim to be recognised in the North-West for our environmental actions across all our work & to influence & educate our service users, partners, supply chains & wider supporters to think about & to embed their own environmental responsibilities across their activities, life & work.

Environmental Impacts:

We will identify key areas where we can make an impact both directly and indirectly and use the SMART goals to assess their impact – Specific, measurable, ambitious, results-orientated, and time-bound.

We will collect data to measure our impact and develop annual goals to reduce our carbon footprint in the following areas:

Transport

We will review all travel/transport across the organisation and monitor journeys, specifically short journeys, as well as continuing with home-working where possible to reduce daily unnecessary journeys.

Where accessible, we will explore more environmentally friendly modes of transport – walking, cycling, trains, car-sharing.

Energy

We will continue to share an office & monitor water, electricity and gas usage (making reductions where possible).

We will review our energy supplier and change to a 'green' supplier where possible.

We will continue to recycle paper, glass, and plastics.

The printer we use has a sustainability policy: <https://www.route1print.co.uk/sustainable-printing>

We will commit to not over ordering on print and reducing unnecessary print in the office and using electronic comms where possible.

Equipment and Business Services:

We will consider the environmental impact of goods and services we choose for our work, such as stationery, ICT/electronic equipment and furniture, as and when they need replacing or upgrading.

We will also consider the environmental impact of business services we use such as our CRM provider, website and email server hosts and banking provider.

Costumes & Props

We will work with expert partners (such as PLANET APEX) who specialise in sustainable fashion & sourcing ethical, recycled, upcycled costumes & props to understand best practice which we can embed.

We will not purchase 'fast, disposable fashion'

Merchandise:

We will use local suppliers for merchandise and print where possible.

We will review plastic promotional products & look at suitable environmentally friendly alternatives.

We will introduce environmentally friendly packaging and reusable bags in place of disposable bags.

Partnerships:

We will work closely with the organisation with whom we rent an office (Pathways Associates) and the community centres in which we operate on their sustainability plans/what action they are taking to reduce their carbon footprint across key environmental areas.

Pathways Associates have a policy to only order stationery from local suppliers.

We will connect with organisations recognised for their sustainable operations – e.g. Thrift+

Monitoring Process

The Managing Director is responsible for ensuring that the organisation and arrangements for carrying out this policy are adhered to.

All employees, trustees and freelancers will be trained accordingly, and every two years.

DanceSyndrome will make an annual pledge to report on our sustainability as an organisation.

This policy will be reviewed annually and amended when necessary. It may also be reviewed should any new, relevant legislation require this.

Date of implementation: April 2022

Date of next review: December 2022

Sus Blankwell



Our Patrons

We are proud to be supported by Jim Blair,
Steve Elias, Russell Hogarth, Baroness Sheila Hollins,
Sian Lockwood OBE and Julie Ward MEP

Signed:

Sue Blackwell, Chair – DanceSyndrome – 04.04.2022