

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY & ACTIONS

Dance Base is committed to monitoring and managing its environmental impact, and to continue to actively find ways to reduce our carbon footprint. This policy applies across each department including Participation, Professional and performances at Dance Base during Edinburgh's Festival Fringe.

We aim to:

- To comply with all environmental industry standards, codes of practice and legal requirements applicable to our business.
- To assess the environmental impact of current and likely future operations
- To raise awareness and encourage participation in staff, suppliers and customers in supporting our efforts.
- Be fully accountable for the accurate measurement of our carbon footprint with a view to improving this year on year.
- To encourage more sustainable forms of transport
- To continue to find ways to improve our environmental performance.
- To assist performers and festival-goers to participate in the festivals in an environmentally-sensitive way



Going Forward:

- Report annually on our carbon footprint that includes utilities, water and travel
- Prioritise specific actions to be undertaken over a given period to ensure that progress on achieving the policy aims is manageable;
- Publish our Environmental Policy and green news stories on our websites.
- Communicate our Environmental Policy to new and existing suppliers/partners.
- Make our recycling practices part of our staff inductions and training.
- We will monitor all business travel and include this in our carbon reporting.
- Where possible we will use the most environmentally-friendly travel option available i.e. train journeys for UK travel, direct flights for international travel.
- We will encourage use of public transport wherever possible.

DANCE BASE - ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS

Dance Base is part of the Green Arts Initiative and has been since 2015. Over the past few years Dance Base has worked to reduce our overall carbon footprint by carefully monitoring our energy and waste output as well as encouraging staff and audiences to recycle. Dance Base has an active Green Team that aims to find new ways to improve our sustainability and environmental engagement with our audiences.

Recycling

- We encourage our customers to recycle where possible by having minimal waste bins in our public areas together with paper, plastic and can recycling bins in the main foyer areas
- Dance Base employees Changeworks who are a leader in recycling and waste management
- Purchase recyclable materials where ever possible and additional glass recycling pick-ups after events

Paper Reductions

- Dance Base's Termly brochure has now had its print run reduced, reducing the overall paper usage
- Further plans to reduce the print mail out by 90% from around 1000 copies of the programme to only 100 to be sent out
- Dance Base staff handbook is paperless and is available within the internal server.
- Trial - For the 2013 Fringe Dance Base, where possible, went paperless for internally sold tickets. The use of iPads allowed ushers to check codes/names while entering the studio
- Additional content on internal monitors and a greater use of online and social media to advertise classes, workshops and Fringe

Staff Engagement

- Information on Dance Base Environmental Policy is included in staff handbook
- Assigned Green Champions help keep staff informed on Dance Base's environmental practices.
- Information on Dance Base's Environmental Policy is now included in all job descriptions and contracts. Our recycling procedures are also taught as part of staff inductions

Audience Engagement

- From Autumn Term 2017 Dance Base brochure includes Green Arts Initiative branding and print encouraging our audiences to recycle.
- Bright colour branding on our public recycling bins highlights what materials can be recycled.
- Summer 2017; Dance Base Environmental Policy and Actions is available to view on the Dance Base website.

Creative Carbon Scotland

- Use companies like Creative Carbon Scotland as a valuable resource for both information, policy and courses in order to continue to lower carbon emissions as well as gaining new ideas.

Business Improvement District (BID)

- Be an active member venue within the Business Improvement District. Use the discounted deals for collective recycling company in order to reduce the lorry traffic on the streets by local companies using the same recycling company.

Travel

- Dance Base uses Central Taxi's for Edinburgh based business travel. A Company that are committed to environmental sustainability and reducing their carbon footprint.
- Dance Base staff are encouraged to cycle, walk or use city buses when travelling to and from work.
- Trains are used as the main travel option for travelling within the UK.
- No unnecessary plan travel further afield if it can be avoided.

Building Improvements

- LED lights have been installed in areas of Dance Base, which operate at just 27% of the previous energy consumption.
- Energy efficient hand dryers to be installed in main changing rooms which will reduce the amount of paper towels used.
- Automatic door installed at Dance Base public reception entrance, which significantly reduce energy loss.
- Continual maintenance and upgrading Dance Base's boilers and heating control systems. This has resulted in our annual gas usage to be cut by an average of 15% in volume.