

**CREAT:VE
YOUTH**

SUSTAINABILITY POLICY & PROCEDURES

Last Reviewed: 23/3/2026



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CREATIVE YOUTH SUSTAINABILITY POLICY & PROCEDURES

Reviewed: 23rd March 2026

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice every year. This policy was last reviewed on 23rd March 2026.

1) INTRODUCTION

Creative Youth supports young people to shape their futures through creativity. We recognise that the climate and environmental crisis is one of the most significant challenges facing young people, and that it directly affects our work, our organisation, and our wider community.

This policy sets out how Creative Youth will:

- reduce the environmental impact of its activities.
- embed sustainability into operations, programming and creative practice.
- support young people, artists, and partners to engage with environmental issues.

This policy applies to all staff, freelancers, volunteers, trustees, artists, and partners working on behalf of Creative Youth. All are expected to engage with and contribute to this approach.

2) OUR APPROACH

Creative Youth is committed to a responsible and practical approach to sustainability.

We recognise that:

- environmental responsibility is part of delivering our charitable objectives.
- our activities have an environmental impact, particularly through energy use, travel and materials
- small organisations must balance ambition with what is realistic and achievable.

Creative Youth will therefore:

- reduce environmental impact year on year
- embed sustainability in decision-making and planning
- work with artists, young people and partners to encourage more sustainable practices
- remain transparent about progress and areas for improvement

We will ensure sustainability is considered across governance, operations, and programme delivery.

3) SCOPE

This policy covers:

- all Creative Youth activity, including programmes, events, residencies, exhibitions and festivals.
- operation of venues and spaces, including FUSEBOX.
- partnerships, commissions, and external collaborations.

All individuals working on behalf of Creative Youth are expected to be aware of this policy and support its implementation where appropriate.

4) KEY AREAS OF ACTION

4.1: Energy, Building and Shared Spaces

Creative Youth typically operates in spaces managed by partners, including FUSEBOX.

Within these spaces, Creative Youth will:

- manage energy use and equipment efficiently where possible.
- use energy-efficient lighting and equipment.
- turn off lighting, heating, and equipment when not in use.
- plan activity to minimise unnecessary energy consumption.
- work collaboratively with partners to support environmentally responsible approaches.

Environmental responsibility is shared across all users of a space, and Creative Youth will focus on the areas where it has direct influence.

4.2: Travel

Travel contributes significantly to Creative Youth's environmental impact. This is a point of consideration for all of our activities, especially those that include a large number of people travelling to Kingston such as FUSE International.

Creative Youth will:

- encourage public transport, walking, and cycling for artists, participants, collaborators, staff and audiences.
- reduce unnecessary travel through careful planning of programmes and activity.
- limit international travel, including flights, where viable alternatives exist.
- strengthen digital participation and remote engagement where appropriate.
- provide guidance to audiences and participants on sustainable travel options.
- support environmentally responsible accommodation and transport choices for visiting artists and collaborators.

We balance environmental considerations with access, inclusion, and artistic needs.

4.3 Artistic Programme & Production

Creative Youth works across multiple artforms and does not adopt a single production model.

We will:

- encourage reuse of materials, sets and resources.
- prioritise reusable materials, shared resources and sustainable production methods.
- reduce reliance on single-use materials.
- avoid unnecessary "build and bin" approaches to productions/events
- support sharing and reuse of materials within local networks where possible.
- introduce sustainability discussions at early project planning stages.
- align our approach with relevant industry guidance, including the [Theatre Green Book](#), where appropriate.
- support artists and young people to explore environmental themes through their work

We take a proportionate and flexible approach, recognising that not all projects can meet the same environmental standards.

4.4 Waste, Resources & Food:

Creative Youth will:

- minimise waste across all activities, including workshops, productions and events.
- reduce printing and promote digital working as the default approach.
- print only where necessary, using recycled or sustainably sourced materials where possible.
- phase out single-use plastics, including bottles, cups, and catering materials.
- prioritise reusable materials and systems wherever possible.
- ensure recommended catering suppliers source responsibly, with minimal packaging.
- promote plant-based, locally sourced and seasonal catering options where feasible.
- encourage all to minimise food waste through careful planning.

4.5 Procurement & Partnerships

Creative Youth will:

- consider environmental impact in supplier, accommodation and transport choices.
- prioritise local, ethical and sustainable suppliers where practical.
- work and collaborate with partners who demonstrate environmentally responsible practices and to support shared sustainability goals.

4.6 Young People & Creative Engagement

Our greatest opportunity for impact is through our work with young people.

We will:

- support artists/young creatives to explore environmental themes and ideas.
- provide opportunities for youth-led sustainability activity.
- share knowledge and encourage discussion around environmental responsibility.
- embed sustainability considerations within creative programmes where appropriate.

5) MONITORING AND PROGRESS

Creative Youth will take a proportionate approach to monitoring its environmental impact.

We will:

- track key areas where we have influence, including energy use, travel, waste and materials.
- use this information to inform decision-making and future planning.
- report progress internally to senior leadership and trustees.
- identify practical opportunities for improvement over time.

Monitoring will support learning and continuous improvement over time, CY remains committed to monitoring impact and making decisions based upon this information.

6) RESPONSIBILITIES

Environmental sustainability is a shared responsibility across the organisation.

Creative Youth will:

- identify a staff lead or team to coordinate sustainability activity
 - **Daniel Cartlidge**, Co-Director, daniel@creativeyouthcharity.org
- ensure staff, volunteers, and artists are aware of this policy.
- encourage all individuals to take reasonable steps to reduce environmental impact in their work.

7. COMMITMENTS (2026–2030)

Creative Youth commits to:

- encouraging sustainable travel and reducing unnecessary journeys.
- limiting high-impact travel, including international flights, where possible.
- strengthening digital participation where appropriate.
- reducing printing and prioritising digital working.
- phasing out single-use plastics.
- increasing reuse of materials and shared resources.
- embedding sustainable production methods into creative practice.
- ensuring catering and procurement reflect environmentally responsible choices.
- tracking and improving environmental impact over time.

These commitments will be reviewed and updated as our capacity and knowledge develops.

8. REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed annually, or in response to:

- changes in legislation or sector guidance.
- organisational development.
- learning from implementation.

Creative Youth is committed to continuous improvement in its environmental practice.

9. VISITING ARTISTS & COMPANIES

Creative Youth encourages visiting artists and companies to support sustainable practices.

This includes:

- using public transport wherever feasible
- minimising new materials and prioritising reuse
- avoiding single-use plastics
- using energy efficiently during rehearsals and performances
- reducing waste and removing or reusing materials after use

We take a collaborative, flexible approach, recognising the needs of each project.

10. CONTACT & FURTHER INFORMATION

If you have any questions, feedback, or require further clarification on any aspect of this policy, please contact Daniel Cartlidge (Co-Director).

Creative Youth welcomes discussion and feedback as part of our commitment to continuously improving our environmental sustainability practices.

Email: daniel@creativeyouthcharity.org | Phone: 020 8549 2120

We encourage all staff, freelancers, artists, and partners to engage with this policy and contribute to its ongoing development.



FUSE
INTERNATIONAL

CREAT:VE
YOUTH

FUSE
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