



# ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

## Summary of Priorities & Actions (2025)

### **CONTEXT**

Dublin Youth Dance Company (DYDC) is committed to ensuring that environmental sustainability remains central to our work. As a youth-focused organisation, we are also committed to protecting the natural environment for future generations of young dancers.

To support our ambitions in this area, we have developed an Environmental Sustainability Policy and Action Plan. The policy aligns with our Strategic Plan “A Time to Grow” (2023-2027), which highlights “sustainability” as one of our core values. This summary document provides an overview of DYDC’s main priorities and key actions for 2025.

During the development process, we consulted with our youth members, audience, staff, teachers and board members, and their perspectives and ideas have been incorporated into our Environmental Sustainability Policy (ESP).

DYDC works in venues and spaces which it does not own, and the organisation does not have dedicated office space. In addition to regular rehearsals, classes, workshops and performances, DYDC also runs the Irish Youth Dance Festival (IYDF). Our ESP has been developed with this context in mind, and we have focused our Key Actions on factors which are under our control.

### **OUR PRIORITIES**

- **Priority 1:** To reduce our carbon footprint, energy usage and waste across all of our activities.
- **Priority 2:** To ensure our organisation demonstrates best practice in environmental sustainability, by engaging in training opportunities, raising awareness of our priorities and actions, and regularly consulting with key stakeholders.
- **Priority 3:** To lead by example, both in our actions and in our words, and to contribute to the wider messaging, advocacy and reporting around the climate crisis.

### **KEY ACTIONS FOR 2025**

#### **1. Travel & Transport**

- We will develop a DYDC Travel Policy to encourage staff, teachers, audiences, participants and visiting youth dance companies to utilise environmentally sustainable transport methods such as public transport, carpooling, bicycles and walking when attending rehearsals and events.

## **2. Energy Efficiency**

- We will encourage teachers, staff, members and participants, via direct communication and venue signage, to reduce their energy usage by turning off lights, heating and other electronic devices when not in use.

## **3. Waste Reduction**

- We will reduce our waste by creating a digital IYDF programme, reducing printing, and reusing old costumes/props. We will encourage teachers, staff, members and participants to prioritise reusable bottles and to utilise recycling facilities where available.

## **4. Digital Storage & Data Management**

- We will ensure that staff, teachers and board members are aware of their digital carbon footprint. We will adopt sustainable data management practices, such as regular email decluttering, deleting unnecessary files, unsubscribing from unnecessary email newsletters, avoiding excessive duplication, avoiding sending large attachments/files, and reviewing “cloud storage” files.

## **5. Knowledge & Awareness**

- We will share our Environmental Sustainability Policy with staff, teachers, members, participants and audiences, participate in training opportunities, and raise awareness of the climate crisis through our artistic work and other activities (as appropriate).

## **MONITORING & EVALUATION**

DYDC acknowledges the importance of monitoring and evaluation to ensure that this policy is effective and fit-for-purpose. We will monitor the implementation of these key actions throughout 2025, and at the end of the year, we will review progress and outline key actions for 2026.

## **FURTHER INFORMATION & CONTACT DETAILS**

A more detailed Environmental Sustainability Policy (2023-2027), which includes a consultation report, and more information about our priorities is available on request from the Artistic Director.

**Signed on behalf of Dublin Youth Dance Company**



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