



Hebden Bridge Arts

Environmental Policy

February 2024

Protection of the environment in which we live and operate, together with the global environment, is a core part of the values and principles of Hebden Bridge Arts ('the charity') and we consider it to be sound business practice. Care for the environment is one of our key responsibilities and an important part of the way in which we operate and carry out the objectives of the charity.

The focus on our creative work and projects for the immediate future is the climate emergency, protection of the natural environment, and what we, as ordinary people, can do in response.

The parish council, Hebden Royd Town Council, and unitary authority, Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council, which cover the areas in which the charity operates have both declared climate emergencies.

In this policy statement we commit our charity to:

1. Complying with all relevant environmental legislation, regulations and approved codes of practice.
2. Protecting the environment by striving to prevent and minimise our contribution to pollution of land, air, and water.
3. Ensuring trustees, staff, freelancers and volunteers are made aware of the charity's environmental policy in induction and training.
4. Seeking to keep wastage to a minimum.
5. Maximising the efficient use and re-use of materials and resources, reducing our consumption wherever possible.
6. Managing and disposing of all waste we do create as a charity in a responsible manner. We aim to recycle all cardboard, paper, glass, Tetra Paks, and appropriate plastic and cans we use in the course of our business.
7. Avoiding the use of disposable / single use items when responsible for catering in the course of our work, preferring to use long life, washable crockery, glassware and cutlery. If circumstances dictate that disposable items must be used we will ensure we avoid serving food and drinks via single use plastics, preferring paper / biodegradable products. We commit to recycle as much as practicable.
8. Ensuring, where we share a space to carry out our work (for workshops, events, meetings and performances), that everyone is reminded to implement the environment policy including turning off lights, heating and equipment when leaving their work area / at the end of a session.
9. Requesting staff, freelancers and trustees use 100% recycled paper in their printers.

10. Asking everyone in the charity to be mindful to only print what is necessary operationally, or that which has to form part of statutory or financial records. All correspondence and documentation is held electronically and very few physical paper files are generated.
11. Reducing our print media and sharing our work and opportunities using digital, online and social media as much as possible.
12. Communicating our environmental performance to our trustees, staff, freelancers, volunteers and other significant stakeholders, and sharing this policy on the charity's website.
13. Developing our management processes to ensure that environmental factors are considered during planning and implementation.
14. Monitoring and continuously improving our environmental performance.