



# The Spark Arts for Children

## Environment Policy

### About the organisation

The Spark Arts For Children is a charity which works to enable children the opportunities for discovery offered by the arts as audiences, as learners and as creators of their own art.

Through the presentation of an annual festival in Leicester schools, theatres and community venues, and through collaboration with other agencies, we offer children the space to discover their own skills, passions and potential. Through a year round programme of participation, learning and bespoke events The Spark facilitates and commission a range of projects, which complement and extend the work of the festival.

The festival presents around 150 individual events across 14 venues and 28 schools or children's centres. We work out of a rented small office at the LCB Depot, in a building run by Leicester City Council.

### The organisation's commitment

The Spark is committed to operating in a safe, ethical and environmentally responsible way, and recognises that businesses can negatively impact the environment. We are committed to finding ways in which these impacts can be reduced, both in the office and beyond.

With this policy we aim to:

- Endeavour to minimise pollution resulting in our actions, and research ways we can offset the carbon footprint of our organisation.
- Set environmental objectives and targets which will be continually monitored and reviewed to achieve the best possible practice for years to come.
- Commit ourselves to achieving continual improvement of our environment performance
- Communicate our policy to all persons working for or on behalf of The Spark, to audiences, partner venues and suppliers.
- Motivate and enthuse employees and audiences to actively involve themselves in the policy.
- Commit to complying with all legal requirements, environmental legislation and regulations appropriate to our activities.

### The scope of this policy

Based on our review of activity, we have identified the following ambitions and targets.

1. Monitor and evaluate our electricity use in the office
2. Monitor and evaluate business travel
3. Develop our programming practice to reflect environmental considerations

We acknowledge that we are reliant on our partner venues and visiting companies to be implementing their own policies and we will work to having more conversations with them about how we are able to support each other.

### How will we measure the success of the plan

In one year we will have scoped out our use of energy and of business travel, to inform a review of the plan in May 2014 and enable us to benchmark outputs in the following years.

We will be able to demonstrate elements of the programme which have supported the Policy.

### Communication of the policy

The policy will be approved at Board level at the meeting in April 2013.

The policy will be shared with staff, freelance contractors and volunteers, and will be posted on the website.

### Review and update

Policy will be reviewed in one year to reflect the work on energy and business travel, and then reviewed on a 3 year basis.