

## ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Last update: June 2022

### Introduction

Akademi recognises the imperative for arts organisations to do their part to develop environmentally sustainable operations, acknowledging the UK government's updated aims to reduce all greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050, compared with the previous target of at least 80% reduction from 1990 levels (source: ww.gov.uk).

We also recognise that environmental sustainability is important from a business perspective as well as an ethical one and we are committed to minimising the impact of Akademi's programme and business practices on the environment. Our environmental responsibility is emphasized through our creative production themes which are aimed at raising awareness amongst children and young people on issues such as the impact of harmful materials on the environment and climate change. We are committed to using sustainable production practices such as the re-use of props and costumes and take active steps to ensure that these practices are written into contracts with artists and partner settings.

Akademi aims to use policies and procedures that will ensure the conservation of natural resources while minimising any adverse environmental impact from our operations, including, but not limited to, waste reduction and recycling.

We aim to review our environmental policies and procedures regularly to improve our performance and quality whilst also seeking to comply with current environmental legislation.

All employees are made aware of this policy and their responsibilities for environmental issues. The Executive Director has responsibility for monitoring procedures and reviewing this policy on an annual basis with the support of the Company Administrator. The Executive Director will inform the Board of any issues which arise, and the Board monitors our environmental action plan on a quarterly basis.

# Akādemi

## Context

Akademi rents an office from WAC Arts in Belsize Park, London. Therefore, much of the office operations in respect of utilities and our wider office building is operated by and under the control of WAC Arts. However, Akademi acknowledges the important part to play within our wider artistic activities as well as our designated office environment within the scenarios as follows:

1. Touring activities: cast and crew travel, technical aspects, waste, and recycling whilst on tour
2. Productions: build and materials (set, if applicable and costumes), energy usage during rehearsals and technical time
3. Marketing: flyers, leaflets, posters etc
4. Staff commuting and company travel
5. Office: paper, disposable cups, food, general stationary, procurement, energy efficiency, heating.

The following aspects are taken into consideration within the above scenarios.

### a. Energy Conservation

The company operates an energy conservation policy to ensure that:

- 1) All equipment is switched off when not needed and at the end of the working day.
- 2) Lights and computers are switched off at the end of the day.
- 3) Low energy electrical equipment will be preferred for purchase.
- 4) There is an efficient use of water, with the water containers switched off at the end of the day.
- 5) Windows are closed when the office is not being used.

### b. Recycling

- 1) The company aims to minimise waste by recycling materials such as paper, plastic, and printer toner cartridges where possible.
- 2) Recycling bins are available for these purposes.
- 3) The company endeavours to perform business electronically, to reduce paper usage.
- 4) We will always seek to purchase products that are environmentally friendly, re-usable, and recyclable and that do not damage the environment.
- 5) Obsolete electronic equipment will be disposed of via safe and compliant WEEE clearance services.
- 6) Touring company advised and reminded on recycling when on the road.

# Akādemi

## **c. Purchasing Policy**

- 1) The company will promote a purchasing policy that will give preference, as far as practicable, to those products and services that cause the least harm to the environment.
- 2) Akademi will avoid wherever practical the use of environmentally damaging substances, materials, and processes.
- 3) Refurbished IT equipment will be considered when replacement units are required.
- 4) Costumes are re-used and cleaned with eco-friendly detergent.
- 5) Props are re-used and sanitised – avoiding the use of any disposable cleaning cloths.

## **d. Transportation**

- 1) The company will continue to encourage modes of transport by staff, such as public transport that minimizes environmental impact.
- 2) Touring productions with multiple performance dates will be planned to reduce any unnecessary travel.
- 3) Staff and artists on tour are provided with travel itineraries involving trains and public transport as opposed to private vehicles.