

Date Reviewed	March 2025
Date Approved by Board	Board Meeting – April 2025
Version #	1
Document #	601
Date of next review	April 2026

Irish National Youth Ballet Company Environmental Policy

Overview

The Irish National Youth Ballet Company (INYB) is committed to fostering an environmentally sustainable future. We recognise the importance of protecting our planet and are dedicated to minimising our environmental impact and building business resilience. We will do this through the development of responsible and progressive practices and policies. Our commitment extends to all aspects of our operations, including our performances, rehearsals, administration, and community outreach. INYB is also committed to sustainability in the arts by retaining talent within Ireland, leading to less reliance on international travel and the impact that it can subsequently have on the environment.

INYB works in venues and spaces which it does not own, and the organisation does not have dedicated office space. INYB's activities include regular rehearsals, classes, workshops and performances. We have provided our Environmental Policy with this context in mind, and we have focused our Key Objectives on factors which are under our control.

Key Objectives

1. Reduce Waste

- Utilise recycling facilities for paper, plastics, and other recyclable materials in all premises and facilities we avail of.
- Reduce single-use plastics in our company by encouraging the use of reusable water bottles, containers, and bags, across our dancers, staff, and volunteers.
- Minimise paper usage through digital communication and documentation.
- Reuse costumes and scenery wherever possible rather than purchasing new ones each season.

2. Promote Energy Efficiency

- Implement energy-saving measures in our facilities, including the use of energy-efficient lighting and equipment such as LED stage lights.
- Encourage staff and dancers to turn off lights and equipment when not in use.

3. Embrace Sustainable Practices

- Source eco-friendly and sustainable materials for merchandise.
- Prioritise local suppliers and businesses to reduce our carbon footprint.
- Promote sustainable transportation options to rehearsals and performances for staff, dancers, and audiences, such as carpooling, cycling, and public transport.

- Adopt circular economy practices such as extending the lifespan of a product or service by partnering with other organisations (e.g. re-use of costumes, textiles, and technical equipment; multiple bookings for overseas guests/tutors)

4. Education and Awareness

- Form an INYB 'green team' to champion the organisation's key environmental objectives
- Raise awareness about environmental issues among staff, dancers, and audiences through workshops, campaigns, and educational materials.
- When resourcing allows, collaborate with environmental organisations to promote sustainability within the arts community.

5. Digital Storage & Data Management

- Ensure staff, teachers, and trustees are aware of their digital carbon footprint.
- 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.

6. Supporting Sustainability in Dance and the Arts in Ireland

- INYB contributes to a broader vision of sustainability by supporting the development of ballet talent within Ireland. By offering high-quality training opportunities locally, we reduce the need for young dancers to travel abroad for part-time or full-time training, thereby lowering associated environmental impacts. This approach also strengthens the sustainability of Ireland's dance training infrastructure by keeping talent connected to local dance schools for longer.
- Furthermore, INYB brings locally produced, high-quality ballet performances to communities across Ireland. These performances, created and performed by Irish-based dancers, choreographers, musicians, producers, offer an environmentally conscious alternative to large-scale international touring productions by significantly reducing travel and transport requirements. In doing so, INYB plays a role in nurturing local audiences and supporting the long-term sustainability of the Irish arts sector.

Continuous Improvement

- Track the company's current practices and set benchmark figures to measure progress against.
- Set measurable goals and track our progress towards becoming a more sustainable organisation.
- Regularly review and assess our environmental practices to identify areas for improvement.
- Encourage feedback and suggestions from staff, dancers, and stakeholders to enhance our environmental initiatives.



Irish National Youth Ballet

INYB is dedicated to playing its part in protecting the environment. By adopting and promoting sustainable practices, we aim to inspire positive change within our community and beyond.

INYB recognises the modest impact the organisation's activities currently have on the environment and will endeavour to maintain or further reduce this impact as this policy and environmental practices develop within the organisation.

We will review this policy on an annual basis to ensure objectives are met and the policy remains appropriate to the size and scale of the organisation.