



**CORK ARTS THEATRE
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY**

Cork Arts Theatre is a 100-seat performance venue in Cork City Centre, which presents both professional and amateur theatre productions and hosts several Cork Festivals each year. We are committed to operating in a manner that ensures a safe and healthy workplace for employees, a safe and healthy venue for audiences and visitors, and minimises our potential impact on the environment.

This environmental policy was drafted by the Theatre Manager in consultation with the Technical Manager and the CE Scheme participants and voluntary staff. It has been approved by the board of Cork Arts Theatre and will be included in the staff induction handbook.

The policy has been informed by Theatre Forum's Green Arts Initiative, and its Guide to Environmental policies. It will be reviewed on an ongoing basis, with the aim of building on its scope annually and keeping aligned with emerging policies and initiatives.

Technical and Stage

Our theatre lighting stock is currently 80 % LED, and we aim for it to be 100% LED by 2025.

There is a clear and detailed document with instructions for technicians regarding the lock up routine and the powering down of equipment in the auditorium.

For our own in-house theatre productions, CAT's regular and preferred way of creating a set is to re-use or re-purpose previously used pieces and materials from our storage.

Utilities

We decommissioned the old gas heating in 2022 and in line with our Carbon reduction targets we have migrated away from fossil fuel heating to high efficiency-based heat pump based cassette units in our atrium and foyer with zoning capacity.

In upgrading our Air quality control, we chose to repurpose the existing AHU and we now operate a fully automated fresh air ventilation system for staff and patrons' health and wellbeing. Indoor Air Quality is constantly monitored and purified to reduce airborne viruses, bacteria, pollutants and allergens. When audiences arrive, sensors detect changes in air quality and automatically bring in fresh air from our upgraded Air Handlers to keep the air fresh and pristinely clean.

There is a clear and detailed lock-up routine provided to all staff to ensure everything is switched off at the end of the day and no taps are left running in the public bathrooms or dressing room bathrooms.

Refuse

In terms of refuse, a culture of environmental awareness and education is fostered, and all staff are expected to use the internal recycling bins provided for paper, cardboard and glass. A recycle waste bin as well as a general waste bin is provided in the two dressing rooms as well as in the foyer area.

Office / Box office

Our policy is to only print when necessary and double-sided printing is used for essential printing in order to minimise paper and ink usage.

As far as is possible, we use e-tickets rather than printed tickets, and our box office staff encourage all customers to avail of the e-ticket option.

All electronic equipment should be switched off when not in use, and at the end of working day, last staff member in office / box office should check to make sure all computers are shut down and printers are switched off. There is a clear and detailed lock up routine on display for staff.

Staff travel

For journeys within Cork, walking or public transport is preferred and for journeys within Ireland, train bus or car sharing.

Bar facilities / Catering

Staff and visiting artists and crew have access to clean drinking water from the kitchen for refilling personal water bottles.

When an event has a catering element, ceramic ware and stainless steel cutlery is used rather than disposable.