

## **Hertfordshire Music Service Environmental Sustainability Policy**

Hertfordshire Music Service (HMS) is committed to environmental sustainability and takes responsibility to reduce the organisation's environmental impact.

In doing this it is vital to recognise that HMS is part of Hertfordshire County Council (HCC). HMS has a responsibility to play a part in the HCC commitment to make "Hertfordshire cleaner, greener and more sustainable" which includes making operations carbon neutral by 2030. As the Hub Lead Organisation (HLO) for the Hertfordshire Music Hub, HMS will consider the Hub's environmental impact alongside the DfE's sustainability and climate change strategy and seek to champion, educate, and advocate in response to the climate crisis. As HLO, HMS will encourage Hub partner organisations to investigate opportunities and take action.

Children and young people are at the centre of what HMS does and it is therefore vital to take account of their views and perspectives. A survey led by Bath University in 2021 which surveyed 10,000 young people reported that "nearly 60% of those approached said they felt very worried or extremely worried" about climate change and linked with this, adverse impacts on mental health were reported.

The objectives and key focus area of a supporting action plan that target and drive positive steps to minimise the service's environmental impacts are set out below.

Working with HCC and within its policies and guidance, and as the HLO and core delivery partner for the Hertfordshire Music Hub, HMS will maintain one Environmental Sustainability Policy and Action plan that demonstrates both the services and the Hub's work and thinking so far, highlighting current and future plans.

### **Objectives**

The outcomes that HMS wants to achieve are set out below:

- Understand both HMS and the Hub's environmental impact by measuring its carbon footprint.
- Implement positive actions to reduce carbon footprint and become more sustainable.
- Build knowledge, understanding and awareness of environmental sustainability and climate change.
- Seek to integrate environmental and climate change themes into the musical programme.
- Environmental considerations become central to planning and how the organisation operates.
- As Hub Lead promote a commitment to environmental sustainability amongst partner organisations.

### **Environmental Action Plan**

The environmental action plan underpins the policy and includes actions to meet the objectives. Current areas of focus includes: measuring the carbon footprint, reducing carbon emissions and waste, and increasing awareness and understanding of environmental sustainability.

The plan is monitored with new opportunities identified and incorporated.

### **Review**

The HMS environmental sustainability plan together with the action plan will be reviewed and updated annually.