

**making it
happen**

a toolkit for Youth Dance



INTRODUCTION



Image Credit: Matty Joplin

The Making it Happen toolkit aims to support dance artists in setting up and delivering youth dance, inspiring you with a range of resources, planning ideas, templates, advice and real-life examples of Youth Dance provision, suitable for those delivering in rural settings as well as further afield. This resource has been produced as part of the Rural Steps project which took place in 2019 - 2020 in six areas across North Yorkshire. The project supported the development of youth dance activity for rurally and culturally isolated communities for young people aged 9-18 years, led by local Dance Artists. The project also sought to provide continued professional development, supporting artists to develop their skills and establish activity in local areas, as well as providing high quality, accessible dance provision to new communities.

This toolkit has been created through the Rural Steps project and has been supported using public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England, and made possible through ongoing support from Yorkshire Dance, the York and North Yorkshire Dance Network and Craven District Council.

This toolkit acts as a guide and a starting point for ideas and inspiration; this isn't an exhaustive list and there may be many other things to consider; be sure to check out our other links for support and guidance and check in with Dance Agencies, Organisations and other experienced artists in your local area for ongoing support.

This toolkit is to provide general guidance and it shouldn't be seen as a complete or authoritative statement of the law. It is the responsibility of the artist/organiser to ensure that they fully comply with the law. Blue Moose Dance Company is not responsible for the content of external websites referred to throughout this toolkit.

MORE RESOURCES

Accompanying this toolkit are a wealth of further resources to help put your plan into action:

PODCAST

Accompanying this toolkit is a specially created PODCAST series, in which we chat to Youth Dance Artists from across the North of England, Parents of Young Dancers, and the Young Dancers themselves! Each episode gives real-life examples of youth dance activity happening right now, how to get started, funding ideas, what the parents and young people think of their regular sessions and ideas for where youth dance should go in the future.

TEMPLATES

Available to download are a range of templates to help you produce the documents you may need when setting up your own sessions. This includes Participant Information Forms, Consent Forms and Risk Assessments with accompanying guidance to support you in producing your own. Also included in this section is an example Sponsorship pack, developed and used by Ingleton Youth Dance to raise funds for the company.

CASE STUDIES

To capture the learning and achievements from the new youth dance provision created as part of the Rural Steps project, a case study has been produced for each area involved; Harrogate, Northallerton, Scarborough, Skipton and Thirsk, alongside Ingleton Youth Dance who were an established group who have developed and expanded during their time on the Rural Steps project. You can also access a case study tracking the development of Preston Youth Dance Company, a long-time established youth dance group run by Blue Moose Dance Company, giving you insight into the company structure, recruitment and funding.

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