

The Orpheus Centre Strategy 2023–2028

Ambition. Renewal. Transformation.

The Orpheus Centre exists to change what's possible for young disabled adults.

Through the power of the arts, we create outstanding learning, living and employment opportunities - and we use our voice to drive wider change across society.

Over the next five years, we will build on our national reputation to deepen our impact, extend our reach and secure a sustainable future for generations to come.

Our Vision

An inclusive world where disabled young people, with a passion for the arts and desire to live and work independently, can achieve their aspirations.

What this means is having a society where young disabled adults have **equal access to creative expression, meaningful work, independent living and fulfilling lives**, where their voices shape the systems that affect them.

Our Strategy: ART

A — Ambition

Outstanding quality, bold values and leadership in SEND and arts for impact

We will continue to deliver **exceptional education, care and housing**, rooted in creativity and co-production. Our community of students, staff and volunteers embodies our values - **joyful, bold, inclusive, resilient and determined** - and our services are benchmarked against the highest regulatory standards.

By 2028, Orpheus will:

- Be recognised as a sector leader in SEND, arts and inclusive employment
- Demonstrate outstanding quality across education, care and governance
- Share and grow our expertise through partnerships and income-generating activity

R — Renewal

A sustainable future with facilities fit for the next 25–50 years

Demand for our work is growing and the needs of young disabled adults are becoming more complex. To meet this moment, we must invest in our future.

Our ambition is to develop **the Orpheus Arts Centre** - a fully accessible learning and performance centre for up to 100 students. This space will open doors to creative careers, strengthen employer links and act as a beacon for inclusive design.

We will:

- Deliver a major capital fundraising programme
- Prioritise accessibility, sustainability and long-term viability
- Ensure Orpheus remains a strong, resilient organisation for decades to come

T — Transformation

Creating change far beyond our walls

While Orpheus will always retain its strong sense of family, our influence must go further. Too many young disabled adults still face barriers to employment, housing and social connection.

Using the arts as a powerful catalyst, we will expand our outreach, campaigning and partnerships - amplifying disabled voices locally, nationally and beyond.

We will:

- Grow disability-confident employers, particularly in creative industries
- Expand supported internships, work experience and employment pathways
- Strengthen our role as a national voice through research, media and public speaking

Why This Matters

Orpheus is not just responding to change...we are **shaping it**.

This strategy positions us to:

- Improve life chances for thousands more young disabled adults
- Influence policy, practice and public attitudes
- Build a future-ready organisation rooted in creativity, equity and ambition

Join Us

Whether you are a **funder, employer, commissioner, creative partner or supporter**, there has never been a more important time to work with the Orpheus Centre.

Together, we can transform lives...and the systems around them.