

## FAIRTRADE POLICY

The Royal College of Music acknowledges that its purchasing activities have a significant impact on the local environment, society and the economy. In collaboration with the Students' Association and the College's catering provider, the College also places great importance on its role within the international community and therefore commits to supporting, using and promoting Fairtrade. In February 2012, the College was successfully awarded Fairtrade accreditation and has been achieved by a College-wide campaign to achieve Fairtrade status, as defined by the Fairtrade Foundation.

The Fairtrade Foundation has outlined five goals for a Fairtrade College, and our commitment to them is as follows:

1. To improve the College's approach to Fairtrade through development of the Fairtrade Policy with the Students' Association as part of the Fairtrade Steering Group.
2. The Fairtrade Steering Group will meet termly, as part of the Environmental Management Group. The group will be responsible for implementing an action plan to achieve and maintain Fairtrade status for the College whilst continuously monitoring and improving the College's approach to Fairtrade.
3. To continue to make Fairtrade foods available for sale in the RCM restaurant and bar wherever possible and to use Fairtrade foods in the RCM restaurant and bar wherever possible. Where this is not possible, there is a commitment to begin to use Fairtrade foods in these establishments as soon as it becomes possible to do so.
4. To continue to make Fairtrade foods (for example tea and coffee) available wherever possible through hospitality catering hosted by the College and the Students' Association, with the commitment to increasing the use of Fairtrade foods at meetings as it becomes possible to do so.
5. A commitment to campaigning for increased Fairtrade awareness, consumption, and procurement across the College to ensure that workers rights and human rights are increasingly upheld. The College plans to use the following events and publicity materials to promote Fairtrade to the College community:
  - Articles and other appropriate material will be included on the RCM website.
  - Promotion of the Fairtrade Mark will take place in publications, such as the College Prospectus and the College alumni magazine –'Upbeat'. This will update readers on the annual Fairtrade Fortnight and any major developments.
  - Fairtrade Foundation materials will be displayed on notice boards and also displayed in every place where Fairtrade foods are sold.
  - A series of promotional events will be run throughout the College during the Fairtrade Fortnight.

This will also be achieved by developing an ethical procurement strategy to ensure that the Colleges' supply chains to include garments, food and stationary, uphold and increase labour rights.

This policy statement will be communicated throughout the College, and efforts to support Fairtrade will be strongly encouraged. To ensure that this policy is kept up to date, it will be reviewed on an annual basis by the Environmental Management Group.

