

# **Our Vision, Mission & Values**

The Portal Trust is a progressive independent grant-maker, and we pride ourselves on supporting innovative approaches to providing educational opportunities for young people in London, especially those facing disadvantage.

We're apolitical and work across all sectors of education, and we're not afraid to take a risk in funding new or untried concepts or ideas; indeed, we very much see this as part of the unique role of the Third Sector.

## **Our Vision**

For all young people in London to have the opportunities and support they need to meet their full potential.

## **Our Mission**

To promote the education of young people in London through:

our grant programmes for individuals, institutions and organisations; giving priority to those from the most disadvantaged backgrounds; and

contributing to and influencing the development of educational policy, practice and research, to shape and meet the evolving needs of London's young people.

# **Our Values**

Our core values provide the framework for the implementation of our mission. They shape the way we pursue our vision and underpin the way we behave with each other as well as the way we interact with the world around us.

## **Efficiency and Professionalism**

We're approachable and aim to treat people with dignity and respect, always adhering to the highest personal and professional standards.

## **Openness and Transparency**

Our policies, procedures and processes conform to the highest standards of governance and will stand the test of probity.

## **Friendliness and approachability**

We treat everyone with empathy, compassion and understanding, as we would wish to be treated, and we always want to hear about new initiatives for young people.

We look for partners with great ideas and the exceptional skills to put them into action – not just those with a polished pitch or a glossy brochure.

We are pleased to be accredited by the Living Wage Foundation as a Living Wage Employer and Grant Funder.

## **Enabling**

We aim to create supportive and meaningful relationships, and to enable organisations and individuals to succeed.

## **Innovation**

We know that to have a positive impact on young lives we need to go beyond traditional education. We champion new and exciting approaches to addressing needs and providing support.

## **Independence**

We cherish our autonomy as an endowed charitable trust. We are apolitical, do not rely on funding from the Government or from the general public, and we are not afraid to take a calculated risk in funding new or untried ideas.

## **Collaboration**

We pride ourselves on our willingness to collaborate with like-minded organisations and are pleased to share the findings of our research and grant making.

## **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**

We embrace London in all its diversity, and believe in nurturing talent and empowering people by respecting and appreciating what makes us all different in terms of age, sex, gender reassignment, maternity, marital or family status, religion, disability, sexual orientation, education, socio-economic background, ethnicity and national origin.

We believe every young person is unique, and the different challenges they face mean some need more support than others to achieve their full potential.

## **Flexibility and adaptability**

We amend, change or reconfigure the support we provide to our grantees to ensure their long term viability and effectiveness.