**[](http://www.reachschool.co.uk/)**

**ART**

‘Art in schools shouldn’t be side-lined… it should be right there right up in the front because I think art teaches you to deal with the world around you. It is the oxygen that makes all the other subjects breathe.’

Alan Parker, filmmaker

At REACH school we aim to provide enjoyment through supporting and encouraging creativity, imagination, and experimentation. Exploring a variety of media and techniques to inspire and challenge students. Art is not only a practical subject but is also academic as it engages with history, politics and society, social, economic, cultural, and spiritual aspects of the past, present and future.

Students are encouraged to produce creative work that explores, records, and reflects on ideas and experiences in their own and other’s lives.

We aim to encourage open minded, creative, critical reflective thinkers who have the courage and confidence to discover and contribute to the world around them. By realising the relevance of Art, Craft and Design in our modern culture whilst raising awareness of career choices and engendering a love of the subject.

Arts and cultural learning through drawing, sculpture, photography, and craft encourages awareness, empathy and appreciation of difference, diversity and the views of others. There is a deep desire within us as human beings to make pictures, which has been happening in all cultures and religions for more than 30,000 years.

In our society, where young people are bombarded with visual imagery, Art teaches students to be visually literate and be able to challenge and respect their own and other’s opinions and views.

Engagement with the Arts helps young people to develop a sense of their own identity and value. At REACH we encourage students to look at Art in the community and visit art galleries.

Studying Art at school teaches determination and resilience, qualities useful to any career. When studying Art, a student will make mistakes and must have the courage to try different methods and techniques to start again, which builds their confidence. These are the skills employers value alongside qualifications. There are a range of careers in Art and Design including graphic designer, architect, illustrator, fashion designer, jobs in media, film and theatre, photographer, and tattooists.

‘Creativity takes courage’ – Henri Matisse

