



OUR PROSPECTUS





WELCOME

I am thrilled that you are considering choosing The Reach Free School as the secondary school for your child. I hope that you are excited by what you see inside the pages of this prospectus and welcome you to explore the enriching learning environment of our school.



Welcoming pupils of all faiths, abilities and backgrounds, The Reach Free School is dedicated to ensuring all of its pupils strive for and achieve their very best in all that they do, both in the classroom and beyond. Excellent teaching is at the heart of a successful school and I am committed to ensuring that our members of staff give your child high quality, enjoyable and engaging learning experiences. In turn, we expect all of our pupils to work hard and commit to challenging themselves to exceed their potential. Regardless of starting points, we expect all of our pupils to REACH for the best and not settle for less.

Personalised learning is at the core of our ethos and our small year groups ensure that my team and I will know your child well and cater for their individual needs, providing them with the education which will both support and stretch them.

To that end, The Reach Free School has a simple ethos which we refer to as ACE; Achievement, Community and Enjoyment. In addition to academic rigour, we have a strong community spirit with bespoke sessions in our timetable dedicated to community projects and initiatives, teaching our pupils about life beyond school and home and preparing them for confident and successful working and family life.

Finally, The Reach Free School is an enjoyable school where pupils love their learning and want to do more. Our 'Electives' programme affords pupils the opportunities to explore their talents and potential, whether they be in the classroom, on the sports field or on the stage.

I am very much looking forward to meeting you and your child and in the meantime invite you to contact me directly with any questions you may have via email at: head@reachfree.co.uk

Richard Booth
Headteacher

"The headteacher leads with calm authority and is ably supported by his senior team. Together they have ensured that the collective vision of 'achievement, community and enjoyment' is central to the work of the school." Ofsted



OPPORTUNITY THROUGH COMMUNITY

The Reach Free School is a non-selective community school committed to securing excellent outcomes for all of our pupils. We have high aspirations for our pupils and high expectations of them. All pupils are expected to:

- Commit their best efforts to all that they do
- Support each other to achieve their potential
- Work with their teachers to exceed their goals
- Demonstrate exemplary behaviour in all that they do
- Take pride in their school and its community within its walls and beyond
- Enjoy learning

The Reach Free School has an active role in the community, working with local businesses and supporting local events. Pupils are very much involved in the school's wider responsibilities, developing skills in leadership and decision making, communication and collaboration and independent, self-led learning. A sense of purpose and responsibility pervades lessons and activities at The Reach Free School and it is important that our pupils recognise their own responsibilities as members of the community.

It is this that underpins The Reach Free School's ethos:

ACHIEVEMENT, COMMUNITY, ENJOYMENT

ETHOS

Achievement

Recognising that each child is an individual with unique strengths and talents, we ensure that every pupil succeeds both academically and socially. Because we keep year groups small, you can be assured that we will know your child well and provide them with opportunities to stretch and challenge themselves and ultimately enable them to compete for higher education places and coveted careers.

To that end, The Reach Free School places English and Mathematics at the core of the curriculum. This ensures that every pupil has the competencies needed in literacy and numeracy to ensure that they are a desirable candidate for any job. They are embedded into the teaching and learning of all other subjects providing pupils with a solid foundation on which to build their knowledge and understanding in other disciplines.

Community

Through our unique 'Community Common Room' sessions, we will provide pupils with opportunities to contribute in a positive way to the local, national and global community.

We also believe that a strong pupil voice instills a sense of pride and community involvement, and ensures that pupils are highly involved in decision making at the school. The Reach Council elects new pupils every year to represent the interests and ambitions of their class and to collectively volunteer ideas and initiatives for making the school even better.

Likewise, we want you to be involved in the life of the school and look forward to working with you to determine the very best education for your child.



Enjoyment

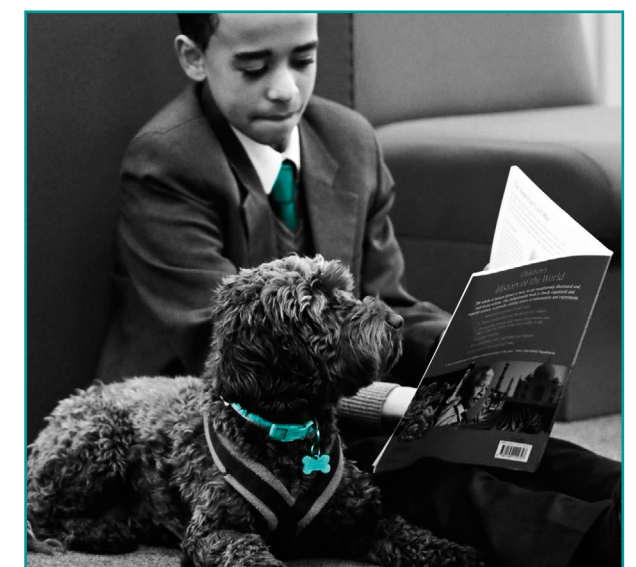
Our pupils' wellbeing is at the forefront of all that we aim to achieve. Happy pupils who feel safe and confident in their school will go on to be the most successful.

Each year 7 class has its own Assistant Teacher who stays with the class for all of the lessons supporting subject teachers across the curriculum, ensuring every child has what they need, both academically and emotionally, to succeed in every subject.

The Reach Free School, has one member of staff who never fails to bring a smile to all our pupils' faces - Scout, our school dog. Scout comes to school every day. She works with small groups and individuals on their reading and rewards them by performing some of her tricks or learning new ones in pupil led training sessions.

Outside of the classroom, The Reach Free School offers a range of practical, physical and exciting activities. From sports matches to theatre visits, from REACH Time to inter-school competitions, The Reach Free School facilitates a whole host of new and fulfilling opportunities for your child to enjoy.

Pupils at The Reach Free School also have the opportunity to experience our local, national and international communities and we provide a range of cost-effective residential visits to countries in Europe.



CURRICULUM

Key Stage Three

A daily diet of English and Mathematics as the first two lessons of the day begin the timetable for pupils in year 7. This enables us to establish a learning culture which emphasises the need for sound literacy and numeracy as the foundation for success in other subjects and for life beyond school.

Pupils in years 7, 8 and 9 study those subjects outlined below:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science (Biology, Chemistry and Physics)
- Humanities (Geography, History, and Religious Education)
- Spanish
- Enterprise (Computing, Food and Nutrition, Business and IT)
- Creative Arts (Art and Design, Music, Drama)
- Physical Education, Sport and Games
- REACH Time

In addition, a unique aspect of The Reach Free School's timetable is 'Community Common Room'. This session is set aside each week for pupils to take part in activities which will benefit the local community. Pupils work together to reach out to the community by designing campaigns or planning and delivering fundraising events to give back to the local area.

This underpins The Reach Free School's ethos of teaching children to respect, welcome and contribute to the success of their local community and indeed national and international society.

From Monday to Thursday, pupils choose their preferences from our enriching 'Electives' programme. This compulsory extra curricular slot in the day allows pupils to experience and contribute to the school in various contexts such as playing for a sports team, attending ACE Time or by enjoying the various activities on offer such as Cookery or Google Expeditions to The Reach Free Sewing Bee or Code Academy.

“The most-able students make strong progress in English and mathematics, often working successfully on tasks that are above the level expected for their age. This is due to the high level of challenge presented to them.” Ofsted

Key Stage Four

The Reach Free School offers pupils a range of courses tailored to suit their needs and ambitions. Most pupils follow the English Baccalaureate route obtaining GCSEs in English, Mathematics, Combined Science, History or Geography and Spanish. This can then be furnished with two further GCSEs ensuring every pupil has a broad range of skills across a number of subjects in which they wish to excel further. A smaller number of pupils follow our vocational pathway which is known as our 'Bespoke Curriculum'.

Pupils can choose from the following GCSE and vocational options:

- Art and Design
- Business Studies
- Computer Science
- Drama
- ICT
- Music
- Physical Education and Sport
- Religious Education
- Travel and Tourism
- Triple Science



Sixth Form

Students in Years 12 and 13 have developed core skills across a range of subjects. Students select subjects to study about which they are passionate and where they wish to deepen their knowledge and understanding.

The Year 12 and 13 curriculum stretches beyond the classroom as all students volunteer within the school to help others. This includes peer mentoring, assisting a teacher during Key Stage 3 lessons, leading a sports club or tutoring younger pupils Mathematics and English. All students also have the opportunity to complete the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award.

It is our goal to provide the best possible platform for so that our students can fulfil their potential. Most students will attend university or take up an apprenticeship. Whichever route they choose to follow on the completion of Year 13, be that university or apprenticeships, they will have benefitted from the expert guidance available to them throughout their time in Sixth Form.

We offer a wide range of A Levels and Level 3 Vocational courses and our class sizes and dedicated Sixth Form areas create a perfect atmosphere for learning and achieving.



WIDER CURRICULUM

REACH For A Book

Every day, the school falls silent as pupils become engrossed in a book matched to their personal reading level. This time of the day is set aside to enable pupils to develop a love of reading for pleasure and to support the reading required of them across the curriculum.

REACH Time

Each week a period is set aside for 'REACH Time'. This is where we deliver the wider aspects of the curriculum, such as relationships, enterprise, aspirations, citizenship and health.

House Assemblies

Every fortnight, the Head of House leads an assembly for their pupils and links different year groups together. The House Assemblies foster a real sense of belonging to the school community for all pupils.

Electives

We offer a wide range of activities to reflect pupils' interests and to encourage an active and healthy lifestyle.

Sport features significantly in our curriculum and in extra curricular time. We aim to encourage all pupils to try a number of different and exhilarating sports at various venues.

Similarly, performances of drama and dance are staged throughout the academic year, enabling pupils to celebrate each others' talents.

The Reach Free School welcomes visiting speakers and distinguished guests throughout the year. Equally, we arrange for our pupils to be visiting speakers and distinguished guests themselves when we go out into the community for various trips and events.

ACE Time

Every week, one elective slot is set aside for pupils to focus on the school values of Achievement, Community and Enjoyment, working together with subject specialists to prepare for future lessons or build on learning experiences from previous lessons. This is an invaluable opportunity for pupils to receive support from experts and ask any questions about the topics they are studying.

"Teachers have high expectations of what students can achieve, setting aspirational targets for them." Ofsted

A DAY AT SCHOOL

8.00am – 8.30am

'TEA AND TOAST' – An optional slot in the day for pupils to meet their friends for a healthy breakfast at The Reach Café to set themselves up for the busy day ahead.

8.30am – 8.40am

REGISTRATION – Pupils arrive at their Home Rooms, sign in and find out about any upcoming events or notices which may be of interest to them or their friends or families.

8.40am – 9.30am

ENGLISH – Novels, poems and plays start the formal lessons of the day.

9.30am – 10.20am

MATHEMATICS – Following on from vocabulary and punctuation, numbers and formulae round up the morning's hard work.

10.20am – 10.35am

BREAK – Time to get some fresh air, pick up a snack and catch up with friends.

10.35am – 11.05am

REACH FOR A BOOK – Time to grab a beanbag and settle down with a good book.

11.05am – 11.55am

SCIENCE – Pupils study chemistry, biology and physics throughout Key Stage 3 and enjoy lots of practical experiments.

11.55am – 12.45pm

SPANISH – Hola! Pupils learn a new language and explore the cultures of Spanish speaking countries.

12.45pm – 1.35pm

LUNCH AT THE REACH CAFÉ – Hot and cold meals and beverages to restore pupils' energy for the practical demands of the afternoon.

1.35pm – 2.25pm

CREATIVE ARTS – Painting, sculpting, acting, directing, singing, dancing, playing instruments – a tiring session but pupils will need to save some energy for their PE lessons tomorrow!

2.25pm – 3.15pm

ENTERPRISE – Pupils learn the art of coding from the outset, enabling them to design their own apps and games.

3.15pm – 4.05pm

ELECTIVES – Rustle up a tasty dish in Cookery, hone your artistic skills in Scrapbook Club, penalty practice at Reach FC, there's a lot to get stuck into before pupils head home, even some support with homework at 'ACE Time'.

4.05pm – 4.15pm

REGISTRATION – All pupils must report to afternoon registration before heading off home for the night, looking forward to returning the following day.







HOW TO APPLY

The Reach Free School is open to all.

There are no selection criteria for admissions to The Reach Free School. After pupils with Education, Health and Care Plans and Looked After Children, places are allocated to siblings of our existing pupils and then solely on distance from the main entrance of the school to the child's home.

Year 7 applications to The Reach Free School should be made through your local authority's admissions process.

In Year admissions should be made directly to the school.

For more information, please do not
hesitate to contact us on

01923 711517

We look forward to seeing you soon!



THE REACH FREE SCHOOL

www.thereachfreeschool.co.uk