

10

REASONS

why arts and culture
make a difference to
young people's lives



The statements
in this document
have been drawn
together from
a variety of sources
including academic
research, sector
specific publications
and government
reports. To find out
more go to:
[www.weareive.org/
bridge/10-Reasons](http://www.weareive.org/bridge/10-Reasons)

Arts and culture improve educational attainment across the curriculum

- Schools integrating the arts show above average reading and mathematics scores
- Drama improves confidence, attendance and literacy, particularly for students with English as an Additional Language
- Music improves attainment in maths, literacy and early language acquisition
- Engineering graduates who have previously studied the arts show above average results.

Find out more...

The value of arts and culture to people and society, [Arts Council England](#)
Social Mobility and the Skills Gap, [Creative Industries Federation](#)
The Power of Music, [Susan Hallam](#)
Undercliffe Tales: an evaluation, [IVE](#)

Arts and culture encourage civic and political engagement

- Students who engage in the arts at school are twice as likely to volunteer and are 20% more likely to vote as young adults
- Drama in schools significantly increases young people's communication skills and makes them more empathic, more tolerant and more likely to participate in public issues.

Find out more...

Imagine Nation, [Cultural Learning Alliance](#)
The DICE has been cast: Research findings and recommendations on educational theatre and drama, [DICE Consortium](#)

Arts and culture promote economic growth

- Arts and culture play a central role in attracting overseas visitors and investment
- The UK's creative industries are worth £87.4bn, employing one in 11 working people
- The arts teach entrepreneurial abilities that are key to the future of engineering and the economy
- Firms that deploy STEM and art skills (STEAM) experience faster sales growth than STEM firms.

Find out more...

Official Statistics: Key findings, [DCMS](#)
The Fusion Effect: how firms gain from combining arts and science skills, [Nesta](#)
Enriching Britain: Culture, Creativity and Growth, [University of Warwick](#)

Arts and culture provide routes to success for young people with special educational needs

Arts and cultural programmes with SEND young people:

- Create opportunities to show hidden talents, creativity and practical skills
- Support the development of ideas and lateral thinking
- Enable retention of skills
- Build confidence and communication skills.

Find out more...

Creative Industries Federation: Social Mobility and the Skills Gap, [Creative Education Agenda](#)
Broadening Access to a Cultural Education through Pupil Premium, [A New Direction](#)

Arts and culture develop skills for the jobs of the future

- The increase in automation means that jobs of the future are likely to require the skills that only humans can bring - empathy, creativity and enterprise
- Arts and cultural education nurtures these skills and prepares young people for new creative professions of the future.

Find out more...

Creativity Vs Robots: The creative economy and the future of employment, [Nesta](#)
14-19 Education: A new Baccalaureate, [The Edge Foundation](#)

Arts and culture level the playing field for disadvantaged students

- Disadvantaged young people taking part in arts activities show positive social and academic outcomes
- Schools using Pupil Premium funding for arts and cultural experiences are seeing reduced attainment gaps
- At-risk young people with a history of arts engagement show higher achievement.

Find out more...

The Arts and Achievement in At-Risk Youth, [National Endowment for the Arts](#)
Broadening Access to a Cultural Education through Pupil Premium, [A New Direction](#)

Arts and culture improve mental health and wellbeing

Mental health teams using arts and culture in schools have seen benefits including:

- Improved self-esteem, social skills and social inclusion
- Opportunities to develop new supportive friendships
- Better school attendance and participation in extra-curricular activities
- Distraction from ongoing anxieties and greater freedom to make decisions.

Find out more...

Art Works: Using the arts to promote emotional health and wellbeing in schools, [City Arts](#)
The impact of arts interventions on health outcomes, [University of Cambridge](#)

Arts and culture promote community engagement and cohesion

Evidence shows that participation in arts and cultural activity:

- Contributes to community cohesion
- Reduces social exclusion and isolation
- Makes communities feel safer and stronger, revitalising community pride
- Strengthens infrastructures and boosts local economies.

Find out more...

The value of arts and culture to people and society: An evidence review, [Arts Council England](#)
Enriching Britain: Culture, Creativity and Growth, [University of Warwick](#)

Arts and culture develop transferable life and work skills

There is strong evidence that arts education cultivates:

- Confidence and motivation
- Cognitive abilities, critical thinking and problem solving
- Teamwork, communication and social competency
- A higher chance of sustaining employment into later life.

Find out more...

Understanding the value of arts & culture, [AHRC](#)
Evaluation of the Start Programme, [NFER](#)
Contribution of the arts and culture sector to the national economy, [Centre for Economics and Business Research](#)

Arts and culture make learning fun

Students who engage in quality arts experiences:

- Are less likely to drop out of education
- Have a more positive view of themselves
- Demonstrate improved achievement, engagement, collaboration and motivation
- Develop their personality, expression, critical thinking, creativity and imagination.

Find out more...

Cultural Education in England, [DfE and DCMS](#)
Champions of Change: The Impact of the Arts on Learning, [Fiske](#)
Arts Integration: A Strategy to Improve Teaching and Learning, [Center on School Turnaround](#)