

# Why we Need to Teach Drawing in School

If you are new to teaching drawing in schools, please don't think for a moment that drawing is a nice activity but one which serves little purpose in the real world.

The following film was made by [The Big Draw](#)

[Straight from the horses mouth, the awards body OCR](#) stresses why we need to encourage pupils to study creative subjects:

## **1. The arts make self starters and develop emotional intelligence**

All require the student to set their own agenda from within themselves, rather than follow set topics as in other subjects. They have to make independent decisions all the way, and be self-critical. They also need to be brave in exposing their creations, and accept criticism. Working in teams makes students into good communicators.

## **2. The arts stretch...**

Music, art and drama require long hours of hard work and dedication. Students have to pay great attention to detail, to perfect and redo. Putting on a play, exhibition or concert takes strong organisational skills.

## **3. Arts students are highly sought-after by employers**

Many employers now actively seek those who have studied the arts. Steve Jobs, founder of Apple, was fond of saying his success was due to his hiring artists and musicians fascinated by technology rather than computer geeks. Top talent management agency, The Curve Group specialising in financial and business services, concurs: "Employees with an arts degree have developed more quickly in their roles from the start. They have

discipline, confidence and can accept criticism.”

**4. Arts ‘reach the parts other subjects can’t reach’**

The arts develop the broader dimensions of the human being – mind, body and soul. The arts can express the inexpressible and make sense of things that otherwise do not seem to. This can be very fulfilling and helps us function as human beings – which can only be good for society as a whole.

**5. Arts ‘reach the students other subjects can’t reach’**

Teachers find arts subjects particularly beneficial for two groups: those who struggle with traditional subjects and those who are high achieving. Less academic students can become defeatist if they feel they can’t achieve: drama, music or art can be the place they blossom. With studious students, the arts can bring them out of themselves and be a release.

Watch how learning about art and design can lead to work in [this inspirational video by Creative Journey UK](#):



**2.8 MILLION JOBS**

And finally, pls listen to Bob and Roberta Smith in this film by [The Big Draw](#), explaining why we teach art in schools: