

LEARNING

gets real

**REAL
SCHOOL**
BUDAPEST

Real life learning for a sustainable world



THE

REAL

WAY

School. Reimagined for real life.

We teach for a fast-changing future and inspire
the next generation of sustainable thinkers.

Real School Budapest is a new English language, international school to open in September 2019 in Budapest, Hungary. Engaging in real life projects, students will gain the mindsets, knowledge and skills needed to prepare for a fast-changing future, and to build a better world.

Through a diverse yet like-minded community, immersion in nature, and hands-on experiences,

kids will develop a deep understanding of their abilities to create positive change at a very young age. The school will ultimately be an innovation studio, where high-tech and no-tech makerspaces, student enterprises, arts projects and collaboration with external partners will all serve the purpose of learning and doing, contributing to the development of learners' entrepreneurial mindset and a feeling of social responsibility.

We could ignore that the world is changing faster than ever, yet our education system is not - and hope that our kids will cope.

We could ignore that our world is unsustainable - and hope that our kids will have a great future.

Or we can do something about it. It's time for change.

We choose to build a better world through a more relevant school.

For our kids, with our kids.
Not because it's easy, but because it's hard.*

Join us!

*<https://er.jsc.nasa.gov/seh/ricetalk.htm>

REAL WAYS of solving problems

The world is changing faster than ever. Yet our education systems have not changed fundamentally in 200+ years. Gone is the era of lifelong jobs. The future is in the hands of the entrepreneurs, freelancers, and creative community builders.

Real School will empower kids to discover what they love, to acquire skills that will be valuable in the future, to learn to adapt.



The world is also facing unprecedented environmental and social challenges, which are all created by well educated people. Humanity needs a new generation who can restore our habitat, change our social & economic systems that got us into this mess, and care enough to make space for everybody.

Real School will build our motivation to contribute towards a sustainable, just and peaceful world we all need.



LEARNING

gets real

At the Real School, we believe that the best way to prepare for the real world is to be part of it. Our focus is on building curiosity, discovering passions, and supporting growth in four core areas.



THE REAL WAY

We refer to the following main curricula and learning tools to guide our learning

FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

British National Curriculum
gov.uk/national-curriculum



PROJECTS

The Circular Design Guide
circulardesignguide.com
Design Method Toolkit
medialabamsterdam.com/toolkit



SUSTAINABILITY

Cloud Institute Education for Sustainability
cloudinstitute.org



WELLBEING

The Contentment Foundation
contentment.org



DIGITAL IQ

DQ Institute
whatsyourdq.org



THE

R

E

A

L

WAY

**RELEVANT
ENTREPRENEURIAL
ART-FILLED
LEARNING**

A photograph of a person in a blue hoodie pointing towards a group of people in a park-like setting. The background is blurred, showing green foliage and other people. The photo is partially obscured by a red graphic element.



Entrepreneurial learning is the development of entrepreneurial attitudes, skills and knowledge that empower you to turn creative ideas into reality.

KEY CHARACTERISTICS

- ✓ Multi-age groups
- ✓ Educational programme in English
- ✓ Holistic approach, engaging the whole person through four key aspects: intellectual, physical, social-emotional and intrapersonal
- ✓ Flexible schedules
- ✓ Individual learning paths supported by online learning
- ✓ Relationship between educators and learners based on co-creation and student agency
- ✓ The opportunity for parents and partners to collaborate with learners through projects
- ✓ Lively community life, many events

SCHEDULE

(indicative)

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8.30	COMMUNITY	COMMUNITY	COMMUNITY	COMMUNITY	COMMUNITY
	EXCURSIONS	OUR WORLD	OUR WORLD	OUR WORLD	OUR WORLD
		BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK
		FOUNDATIONS	FOUNDATIONS	FOUNDATIONS	FOUNDATIONS
		LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
		ENTREPRENEURSHIP	ENTREPRENEURSHIP	ENTREPRENEURSHIP	ENTREPRENEURSHIP
16.00		EXTENSIONS	EXTENSIONS	EXTENSIONS	COMMUNITY

REAL FORMS of learning

Learning is organized around how the students approach the material, the competencies and skills addressed, and how the learning journey is charted. We call these structures Learning Forms. They are flexible, adaptable and embody a diversity of learning styles. No more forced curriculums. No more one size fits all.

Community

A time for building relationships, social-emotional engagement, and for rituals, such as gathering for song and music.

Excursions

A full day out in nature or in the city, exploring, playing and getting our hands dirty.

Foundations

Time to work through Maths, build stronger writing skills, discuss latest readings, and get exposed to key concepts in the Sciences.

Our World

A wholly integrated learning experience and exposure to our world and culture.

Entrepreneurship

Real life project work for 21st century skills development, following consistent design processes with real impact.

Extensions

Opportunity to continue project work, or join language, art and music experiences, or game clubs and sports.

COMMUNITY

Morning gathering in small groups, sharing excitement for the day.

School-wide meetings to discuss and shape school policies.

OUR WORLD

Kids exploring what it would be like to be a classical composer living under the Habsburgs.

Kids comparing the scale of trees to other objects and drawing it.

FOUNDATIONS

Older kids helping younger kids with a Math exercise.

Kids using highly curated online materials to practice writing skills, and get exposed to key concepts in the Sciences.

Educators working directly with kids, giving them the extra support unique to them.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Kids brainstorming together and putting post-its on a wall, part of a step in a design process for building their own project.

Kids building a barn for the animal farm on the school property.





"Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up."

Pablo Picasso

Art-filled days are at the heart of the school's learning ethos. Creativity, lateral thinking and spontaneity are core skills we desperately need in adulthood. We bring these skills to life through getting immersed in the arts. Three-year-olds sing, draw, dance, paint, act, build and

create happily. They are care-free, without the fear of failure. By the age of 15 kids have lost 85% of their creative thinking capability. At the Real School educators will challenge themselves every day to keep this spirit alive.

CREATIVITY is key

"Creativity is contagious"

said Albert Einstein. Let's pass it on together!

Real School educators and mentors

Teachers act as mentors, co-learners and coaches, providing guidance while encouraging students to be inquisitive, investigative and experimental in their learning.

They learn and work alongside students to frame thoughtful questions, explore new ideas, and develop skills. Our unique

schedule allows learning to become a journey of exploration. A community where a passion for learning is contagious.

External professionals - including parents - are also involved in the learning experience, to provide opportunities for in-depth inquiry into their fields of expertise.

STUDENT. EDUCATOR RELATIONSHIP

Three principles drive the student - educator relationship at the Real School

RELATE EQUITABLY

"What are your goals, & how can I help?"
Instead of: "Do what I tell you, or else"

PRACTICE CO-CREATION

Do WITH, not TO or FOR

BE VULNERABLE

Wonder aloud
Celebrate our curiosity
Ask for help

Embrace failure
Prioritise relationship
Be human

"The more I can keep a relationship free of judgment and evaluation, the more this will permit the other person to reach the point where he recognizes that the locus of evaluation, the center of responsibility, lies within himself."

Carl Rogers

STUDENT AGENCY

"We ask 18-year-olds to make huge decisions about their career and financial future, when a month ago they had to ask to go to the bathroom."

Adam Kotsko

To put it simply, student agency gives students voice and choice, in how and what they learn. It results in activities that are meaningful and relevant to learners. It is driven by their interests, often self-initiated with appropriate guidance from teachers. Agency isn't something that is given, but instead is 'a given'. As our kids grow and mature, they need less and less scaffolding. They can take their lives into their own hands.



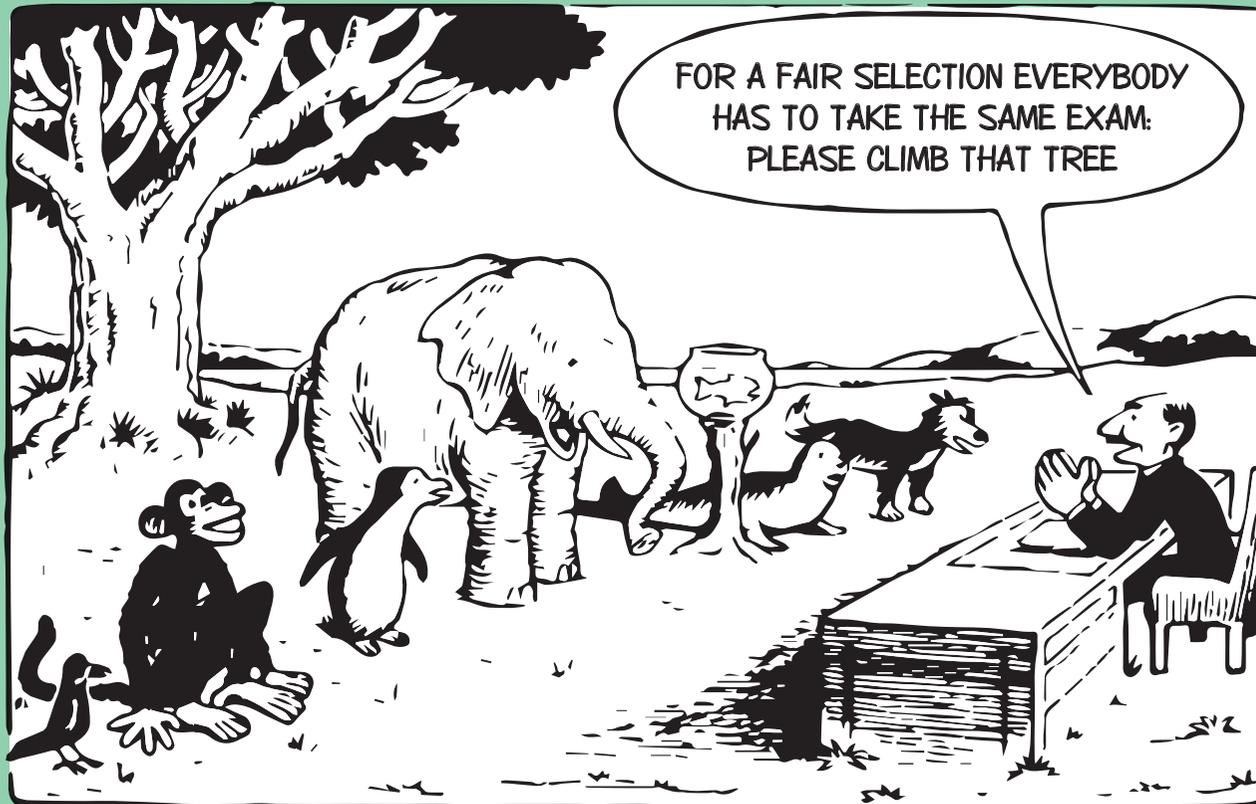
How we know that we are learning

**WE TEST PROBLEM SOLVING
NOT FACT RECALL**

We don't use standardised tests or grading. Instead, we focus on the skills, knowledge, mindsets and wellbeing of our students, so they can grow into responsible, creative and leading thinkers and doers of the future.

Assessment at Real School Budapest is designed primarily for learning. Feedback, reflection and demonstration of the students' progress are built into the daily life of the school.





NEW REPORT CARDS

Several initiatives in the world are underway to reform report cards. We are taking best practice to be able to express the unique skills, strengths, and interests of each learner. Great examples are the Mastery Consortium: mastery.org, and the Lumiar Digital Mosaic (lumiar.co/en/digital-mosaic)

REFLECTION

Students are continuously reflecting on what they are doing, why it matters, and how it could be improved. Reflections are structured in numerous ways, including blogs, vlogs, debriefs and journals.

ONGOING FEEDBACK

Timely and constructive feedback helps us continuously grow and improve. Everyone within the learning community gives and receives feedback in both formal and informal ways.

COMMUNITY EXHIBITS AND PORTFOLIOS

Student learning is recorded and exhibited regularly through community exhibits, an online portfolio, and capstone talks.

GREAT MINDS

think for life

Skills for life and for university

Our kids learn about themselves and find passion through their Real School experience.

It is important for students to be in charge of their options, including their choice of university, if this is the right next step for them. The Real School learning programme promotes core skills and mindsets that universities and employers seek in the 21st century.

University Admissions Officers Report 2016

Top five attributes university admission officers look for in student applicants



96%

Evidence of a passion for their chosen course subject



95%

Good written English



91%

Evidence of a positive attitude towards study



90%

Evidence of an ability to think and work independently



79%

Ability to persevere and complete tasks

How could students be better prepared to thrive at university and to successfully complete their degree?



100%

Ensure they are ready to think and learn independently



96%

Ensure they have chosen a subject they are passionate about



98%

Ensure they have a secure understanding of the demands of the course

Which one would you say is most often missing?



62%

...ready to think and learn independently



3%

...chosen a subject they are passionate about



32%

...have a secure understanding of the demands of the course

~~OLD SCHOOL~~ ~~NEW SCHOOL~~ REAL SCHOOL

The Real School challenges some of the fundamental premises of mainstream education. It's a new school, built for new thinkers.

	OLD SCHOOL	REAL SCHOOL
PURPOSE	Preparing for post-secondary education or employment - for individual prosperity	Living a purposeful and fulfilling life - for collective prosperity
GOAL	Building a knowledge base, knowing the right answers	Developing competencies, values, knowledge and motivation to change the world, while learning about being in harmony with self
LEARNING PROCESS	Knowledge is absorbed through lectures, worksheets and tasks	Development happens through real life projects, community - involved, entrepreneurial learning
PATHWAY	Linear, school-centred, one size fits all, with few pathways	Divergent, differentiated, with many pathways
CONTENT	Disciplines are separated into subjects, delivered in a scope and sequence	Content is integrated, inquiry-driven, derived from the real world and local context
TEACHERS	Teachers are experts, authoritative approach, transfer of knowledge	Teachers and community members are collaborators and facilitators, democratic, seeking knowledge and making change together
LEARNERS	Students learn, receive and follow instructions, organised by birth year	Community learns and acts, organised by interests
ENVIRONMENT	Indoor classrooms, static desks organised by rows, canteen food	Integrated with the natural environment, sustainable materials and practices, quality food, the world as your classroom
TIME	Structured timetables, short periods of study	Flexible timetables, long blocks of projects and cross-curricula study
ASSESSMENT & REPORTING	Testing for knowledge and skill development; reports as grades	Ongoing feedback and self-reflection for skill, knowledge and social-emotional development; reports as narrative
MEASURE OF SUCCESS	University or college entrance through grades and test scores; get a good job	Actions to make our world a better place; University or college entrance through portfolio; create great jobs

Are you for

REAL

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REAL
SCHOOL
BUDAPEST

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