

WALL
SPACE



Rookes Alley &
Castle Street Subways
Subway transformations in East Hertfordshire



a division of



Rookes Alley & Castle St Subways

Case number: 001013

The project

Relentless pressures for local authorities to improve air quality in their area meant it was time to get creative! With two dreary and particularly unwelcoming subways on major school walking routes, East Hertfordshire District Council saw the opportunity to revitalise and transform these drab dungeons to encourage less driving and more walking.

Successfully awarded a grant for the work from the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), and facilitated by Hertfordshire County Council, the Wallspace team got to work to create a bespoke design that would be attractive for local residents.

The design team joined forces with pupils from four of the local primary and secondary schools in the area to distil their artwork into a final illustrated Wallspace design that would showcase their work for years to come.

For maximum durability and resistance to vandalism, the decision was made to use printed Dibond Wallspace panels. With the exact same printing and design options as the typical vinyl wall-wrap method, Dibond panels are extremely hardwearing and reinforced to withstand the elements and ultimately have a longer life span with minimal maintenance.

The benefits

A bespoke baton framework was installed throughout the subways in which the printed Dibond panels were securely affixed, completing the installation and showcasing the spectacular Wallspace design.

- Ultimate durability & hardwearing display that lasts for years
- The panels are laminated with a robust anti-graffiti coating to help with ongoing reduced maintenance

- Provides a completely transformed community space
- The collaborative design helps the community take ownership for the space
- Speedy installation
- Endless design possibilities with laser sharp resolution
- Secured with anti-vandal fixings
- Effective edge finishing to minimise the opportunity for vandalism

The outcome

Transforming from dark and dingy tunnels into light, fun and picturesque underpasses; a grand reopening ceremony was held to celebrate the fantastic success of the project.

Attended by the Mayoress of Hertford Linda Radford as well as Councillor Peter Ruffles along with many of the pupils involved in the design, the subways were declared open and ready for years of school-runs and pedestrian commuters.

"I have to admit that I have been guilty of driving the kids to school even though we only live around the corner but when you have young kids, subways can be a bit scary. This new improvement is definitely going to make it much more of a pleasurable experience and I smile every time walk past my son's art on the wall."

Diane Lumley
Local resident & proud mum



Dark and dreary before the Wallspace installation



New enchanting exhibition of artwork from local pupils



Grand opening by Mayoress Linda Radford, Cllr Peter Ruffles, young artists & local residents