breathe

How we think, talk and look

(AND SOME OTHER IMPORTANT STUFF TOO)



(YES, HERE)

Jonathan and Gareth had a chat that went a little like this... "Hey, wouldn't it be good if companies stopped getting so caught up with admin and had more time to focus on what they should really be doing?"

"Yes, that would be good."

START HERE

and so the Breathe story began...



Everyone has a part to play

Welcome to the world of Breathe.

This book contains information on the Breathe way of doing things and the importance of staying true to who we are to ensure maximum impact in the world. Our brand is not simply a tool for marketing and communications – it's something we live out everyday.

Whether on the phone to a customer or supplier, writing a blog for the website or having conversations with new contacts at a networking event – building a strong brand requires epic amounts of team work.

But we know you've got it in you - that's why you're reading this.

Go well in your mission to give UK SME's what they've been waiting for all this time.



Jonathan Richards, CEO of Breathe





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01

Our business

How we do things round here.





The big idea

People are powerful. Time is valuable.

THESE ARE OUR FOUNDING PRINCIPLES

Our mission

To drive out HR admin and give people time back.





What is Breathe?

ALSO KNOWN AS OUR 'VALUE PROPOSITION'

Simple and secure HR cloud software that saves admin time and releases people to grow their business.









The Breathe model for business

Team

People with a growth mindset. Skills + attitude = the right people.

Product

A simple to use online system for employee admin focusing on three themes; organise, automate, inform.

Development

Broad functionality - low depth. Customer-focused development process. Constant and never-ending improvement

Pricing

Pricing should never be a barrier. Choosing Breathe should be a 'no brainer'.

Sales Channels

Direct - High volume, low touch trial/onboarding for UK SMEs. Partner - Account managed network of HR consultancies.

Marketing

Mostly inbound, using content to build awareness, drive sessions, generate trials. Target audience: UK SMEs and HR consultancies.

Systems

Continual investment in internal systems to integrate all aspects of our business activity. We become experts in the systems we use.

Finance

Fast but sustainable growth, putting people above profit. Low operating costs. Investment funded.



02

Our culture and values

What it's like to work for Breathe.



We asked...

WHAT IS ONE THING YOU LOVE ABOUT WORKING FOR BREATHE?

The people

Everyone wants to be here and work together to make it a success

We're an active company that has lots of new cool things going on

The simplicity of the product



The ability to turn a crazy idea into reality (with a great bunch of people)

The opportunities you are given to develop yourself

The openness of all departments in sharing ideas and progress

Everyone helps everyone!

I'm encouraged to express myself, challenge myself, and bend the rules

The culture

Treat others how you would like to be treated

Our values

Walk a mile in the other person's shoes.Take the time to listen. Own up to mistakes.We value the trust that colleagues, customersand partners put in us and we care deeplyabout the impact our actions have on them.



Stand up proud



We're proud of who we are, what we do and
the difference we're making in the world.
Our strength comes from our unique skills and
experience. We bring our authentic selves to work and
know that the team is stronger for its differences.

Follow it through

Let your actions speak louder than words. Commit to a task, take deliberate action and hold yourself accountable. We do what we say we're going to do and hold each other accountable.



Show your passion

Contents



Every opinion is valid. We're not afraid to say what we think. Have strong opinions, be prepared to defend them and don't hide from disagreement. It's ok for others to disagree with your views – accept that their input may change your position.





Do the right thing

Do what you believe to be right, even when it's not the easy option. Sometimes doing the right thing means telling a business that Breathe isn't the right fit for them. This helps us stay focused and lets us move forward with confidence.









03

Our identity

It's more than looks, it's who we are.





Words that are important to us







Who uses Breathe?

Breathe is the perfect fit for SME's with 10 - 50 employees. We primarily target business owners and managers who are responsible for employee admin and HR, but from time to time also run campaigns to capture the imagination of employees.

We have two clearly defined sales channels and a number of audience personas within each of those. We won't go into too much detail now, but it basically looks like this:



Business owners and managers who subscribe to Breathe directly.



HR consultants who sell Breathe to their clients.

Our brand essence

It's what we want to be known for and what we want people to feel when they come into contact with Breathe.

Empowerment

Our brand essence is this because...

- We empower people to do the things they have always dreamed of doing by releasing them from HR admin
- We recognise that people are powerful and time is valuable
- Our customers' time is best spent on things other than admin

Our tagline

Our tagline captures our brand essence and differentiates us from our competitors.

Effortless people admin

We chose our tagline because...

- It's short and memorable
- Breathing is designed to be effortless
- 'People' sounds more human than 'employee'
- It acknowledges that people admin is a necessary part of running a business.
 Rather than saying 'it's a hassle we could do without', we make it 'effortless' we're showing people a smarter way of doing things.





Our personality

Consistency builds credibility, so in order to build a strong brand, it's vital that everyone is on the same page.

The DNA and personality of Breathe is described below. Use it as a simple check list to ensure everything we do measures up to this:

Focused	Committed to serving our target market with one well-crafted product. Championing the power of focus to drive business success.
Positive	Breathe gives you time back - now that's something to be happy about.
Simple	Unashamedly simple, because there's enough complication in the world.
Authoratative	A respected voice in the UK HR scene. Trusted, knowledgeable and switched
Informal	We're all about a fresh approach to HR. Corporate jargon is banned.
People-centric	We believe people do their best work when they feel happy and valued. Breathe champions the value of healthy culture for healthy business.

CHECK!

ned-on.



Our tone of voice

There's enough 'business speak' in the world - that's why we do things differently.

People are at the heart of every business, so we figured it would be a good idea to talk to them. That means speaking as if we are talking to humans, not entering a competition for the most HR terms in a sentence.

We keep things relaxed but authoritative, witty but not unprofessional.

The designs at the back of this book show examples of our copywriting style. Any copy for Breathe should be written in a style that reflects our personality.

How we write Breathe

Our brand and product name is Breathe. It's a verb but we use it as a noun. Therefore, to avoid confusion, we always write our name with a capital 'B', like this: Breathe.

This should happen regardless of where Breathe appears in a sentence - it ensures Breathe always looks like a title and helps us build value in our brand name.

We always write Breathe (never BreatheHR or breatheHR). If you want to talk about HR, use: 'Breathe, the HR admin app' or 'HR software product, Breathe'.





Photography style

People-centric

Breathe is all about people, so, naturally, our photography should reflect this.

Space for copy

Creating compositions with space for copy will allow photography to be used in a natural and integrated way

Relaxed and authentic

There are enough voices telling us how we should behave and what we should do. Breathe is all about championing a culture where people thrive and do their best work. Our photography style should reflect this.

Aspirational

Our software transforms people's work lives. Our photography should reflect what an HR admin-free life looks like.











Logo usage

04

The Breathe logo

Primary

breathe

Our logo is our most valuable brand asset.

It represents the headspace and extra time that our customers enjoy as a result of using Breathe.

It should be used consistently and without alteration to build brand awareness and credibility.

Whiteout

Mono



The mono version is only for use when there is no option for printing in colour. In this instance, a 100% black logo should be used.

Logo files are available on request from: brand@breathehr.com. Please do not recreate logo files.

Logo and tagline lockups

Our tagline captures the essence of the Breathe brand and should be used wherever appropriate and space allows. Please only use the versions shown below and don't alter the relationship of the logo and tagline.

Logo and tagline lockup v1



Logo and tagline lockup v2



Effortless people admin

Things NOT to do with the Breathe logo



Please don't alter the relationship of the logo and tagline - we like it how it is.



Please don't alter the relationship of the brandmark (the clouds) or the logotype (Breathe text)



Please don't add shadows or effects to the logo. It's SO 1997.



Please don't use the logo in a non-brand colour. Yuk.



Two clouds is quite enough, thank you.



Yes it's Comic Sans. Yes it's bad. (Please don't change the font)

Logo files are available on request from: brand@breathehr.com. Please do not recreate logo files.

Breathe Partners

Our Partner programmes are a key part of Breathe's model for business. We want our Partners to feel valued, equipped and know that they are part of something exciting.

Partner lockup



We don't have a separate sub-brand for Breathe Partners - just a simple identifier that adds credibility to Partner relationships and tells the world that they're on board.

Partner banners





breathe HR, the smart way Certified Partner

Certified Partner Stop doing admin Start doing business

Logo files are available on request from: brand@breathehr.com. Please do not recreate logo files.



05

Basic elements and design examples

Breathe typefaces

Rubik is our primary typeface. It is freely available for use from Google Fonts so you shouldn't need to substitute it for anything else. Rubik should be used at all times in all applications (digital and print).

Rubik Light ABCDEFGHIJKLM nopqrstuvwxyz 0123456789 Rubik Regular ABCDEFGHIJKLM nopqrstuvwxyz 0123456789 Rubik Medium ABCDEFGHIJKLM nopqrstuvwxyz 0123456789

Fine tuning Rubik: Kerning: Optical, Tracking: -25em

PERMANENT MARKER ABCDEFGHIJKLM NOPARSTUVWXYZ 0123456789 Permanent Marker is our handwritten font which is used for injecting some of the Breathe personality into our communications. It should be used sparingly and only for non-critical text. Never use Permanent Marker for body copy and if in doubt, don't use it.

Fine tuning Permanent Marker: Kerning and Tracking should not be adjusted for handwritten typefaces

Breathe colours

Our colours have been carefully chosen to represent the personality and feel of Breathe. Please don't alter them or use colours that aren't shown here.

Primary

Breathe Dark Blue Pantone 3035 C R0 G62 B81 HEX/HTML #003E51 C90 M25 Y20 K70 **Breathe Mid Blue** Pantone 3005 C R0 G119 B200 HEX/HTML #0077C8 C100 M31 Y0 K0

Breathe Light Grey

Pantone 3035 C 7% Tint R235 G236 B240 HEX/HTML #EBECF0 C0 M0 Y0 K10

Secondary Generally only to be used when the primary colours are present.

Breathe Light Blue	Breathe Green	Breathe Red	Breathe Yellow
Pantone 2995 C	Pantone 7479 C	Pantone 178 C	Pantone 7404 C
R0 G169 B226	R38 G208 B124	R255 G88 B93	R244 G218 B64
HEX/HTML #00A9E2	HEX/HTML #26D07C	HEX/HTML #FF585D	HEX/HTML #F4DA40
C74 M14 Y0 K0	C70 M0 Y65 K0	C0 M70 Y58 K0	CO M10 Y85 K0

Free the clouds!

The clouds are our brand mark and an important part of the logo. They can also be used in creative ways to add interest, energy and versatility to brand communications. Here are some examples.



Tiled patterns and colourways





Photo fill



Text fill

When filling with text, use a single cloud and only part of the shape.



Colour fill



10

Real life examples

Our brand identity is a living, breathing asset that needs to have freedom to change and diversify with the business. The following pages give a flavour of how Breathe looks and feels in the real world.

Branded merch



Waterbottle





Graphic tee



Breathe guides/ebooks



Breathe guides/ebooks



Employee benefit guide

01 What they are and why they matter

Why employee benefits matter

It might be tempting to offer the bare minimum to your employees if you're a small business. After all, you've got costs to keep down and wages to pay! But if your idea of benefits is buying a better packet of biscuits for the office kitchen, then it could be time to think again.

Not offering benefits means less costs in the short term for your business but long term, you could be hindering rather than helping your growth. By offering decent employee benefits you will attract talented staff and help retain those staff you do have. You'll also build an attractive employer brand and create a perception of a strong, caring and invested employer.

According one report, 69% of employees revealed they are more likely to stay with an employer who offers a good package while 68.2% said there were more likely to take a job if an employer offered a good benefits package.

On the flip side, without employee benefits you could risk higher staff turnover which leads to greater recruitment costs and a smaller talent pool to pick from when you do recruit. It can cost a lot to replace an employee, not just in terms of recruitment but in training and getting new employees up to full productivity and if you're having to do this regularly the costs can be significant. If you're a small business trying to grow, do you really want to limit your options and incur those extra costs simply because you're not offering gym membership or health insurance?

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69% of employees

revealed they are more likely to stay with an employer who offers a good package

breathe

Online display

Evergreen



Online display

Campaign led





Print ads

We take care of people (admin)

Join the 5000+ UK companies using Breathe to manage their HR admin

Start today for free at breathehr.com





Video Overlays



Video Overlays





Effortless people admin



Project credits

Brand strategy and design: Sublime (wearesublime.com)

Breathe team

Joel Upton - Project Lead Content contributors: Rachel King, Melissa Jones, Jonathan Richards Photo models: Alex Bennett, Ben Chappells, Carl Sadecki, Ewan Dunlop, Joel Upton, Katie Hedger, Lisa Taylor, Maddie Hirschler, Sarah Benstead, Rachel King, Georgina Sillett

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