



GROVE COLLEGE

A mind set to succeed



COLLEGE PROSPECTUS



MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

'I believe firmly that the students of Market Drayton and beyond deserve the very best education.'

'It is my aim to ensure that they are presented with opportunities that allow each individual to flourish emotionally, personally, socially and academically, whether that be through a traditional or vocational suite of qualifications.'

I want to encourage our young people to have the highest expectations, aspirations and ambitions, creating 'can do' attitudes in order to meet the challenges of the global marketplace both now and in future years.

I believe that all our students have the right to feel emotionally supported and valued and will ensure that Grove's outstanding record in safeguarding children is maintained.'

Mrs [Sonia Taylor](#) Headteacher



INTRODUCTION

Grove College is the most popular centre of education for 16-19 year old students from Market Drayton and the surrounding areas of Northeast Shropshire and nearby parts of Staffordshire.

The College is based in the magnificent Grade II listed Grove House which provides an ideal atmosphere in which to learn and study. The College shares staffing and benefits from facilities in the main Grove School building, but also has an ethos all of its own.

Grove College provides students with opportunities to broaden their education and outlook as well as gain the qualifications needed for Higher Education courses at University, employment or further training.

Good reasons to choose Grove College:

- Grove College has a proven track record of high pass rates.
- Students make good progress.
- A history of success; both students and parents/ carers praise the College.
- Study area and ICT facilities.
- Common Room and Café.
- Links and partnerships with other educational providers.
- A dedicated tutor team.

And if students have previously studied at Grove School up to Year 11 consider:

- They have experienced success here and are well known to the teachers;
- Travel time is minimised so students can take full advantage of all the opportunities on offer.

FACILITIES

Students at Grove College are based in Grove House, which has been adapted to be a centre ideal for students. The main rooms of the original house are used for lectures, lessons and tutorials but the character of each has been retained, along with much of the original style of decoration.

The old servants' accommodation has been converted and includes classrooms and computer facilities, as well as a common area and café. There is also a quiet study area with a suite of computers linked to the whole-school network. In recent years an extensive programme of refurbishment has taken place, steadily improving the facilities and there is now Wi-Fi in all areas of College.

As well as having lessons and tutorials in Grove House, students also use the specialist Science, Technology, Drama, Sports and Language Department facilities across the campus at the School. These form a well-maintained, pleasant environment with all the resources necessary to support the College courses we offer.

Students are encouraged to use the facilities in College for independent study and are also welcome to use the excellent Library and Resource Centre in main school, which has a wide range of reference books and additional ICT facilities for students.

Grove House has a café where snacks and drinks are available, and students can use the extensive catering service at the School both at lunchtime and morning break which provides snacks and meals from fast-food to salads.



STUDENT SUPPORT

At Grove College students can expect a high standard of tuition and support in a well-resourced and friendly environment. In return, the College has its expectations of students and a code of responsibility based on the premise that success does not come without commitment, regular attendance and hard work.

There is a strong student support system throughout Grove School and College with extensive links to outside agencies. Students at Grove College are free to access support as necessary through their tutors. Students in Year 12 and 13 are placed in tutor groups, with a tutor who provides academic and careers advice as well as personal support and guidance. Attendance and progress are closely monitored and personal interviews are held on a regular basis.

Students are encouraged to develop self-discipline in managing their studies. Attendance at all lessons is compulsory, but all courses include some time when students are not being taught. Independent study is a key feature of time in college and students are expected to research, complete assignments and read more widely around the subjects they have chosen to study. Being successful means making constructive use of time and finding a balance between study and social activities.

There is a bursary available for some students to support them financially through college. This is means-tested and is administered by college staff.

Qualifications earned at Grove College open up a wide spectrum of opportunities. The majority of students in recent years have continued onto University – including Oxbridge. Others successfully take the next step into Further Education, modern Apprenticeships or directly into employment.

“Grove College is very different from Grove School - you're treated as an adult”





COURSES

Through forward-looking curriculum development, we are constantly opening up fresh opportunities for students. The flexible and innovative timetable structure allows programmes of study to be tailored very closely to students' needs. All courses are taught by Grove staff.

Provision at Grove College includes a wide range of A Level subjects and a number of Cambridge Technical Level 2/3 options together with GCSE Maths and English. Outline descriptions of courses currently available can be found on the following pages. Extra information is available on the website. Please note that changes to the Post 16 curriculum are currently taking place, therefore information in the prospectus is correct at time of publication and further course details will be published on the website as they become available.



Courses currently offered:-

A /AS LEVEL COURSES

- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Economics
- English Language
- English Literature
- English Language and Literature
- French
- Geography
- German
- History
- Information Technology
- Mathematics & Further Mathematics
- Psychology
- Physics
- Sociology
- Spanish

CAMBRIDGE TECHNICAL COURSES

- Business - Level 2 & 3
- Health & Social Care - Level 2 & 3
- Sport - Level 3
- Art & Design - Level 3
- Performing Arts - Level 3

OTHER COURSES

- GCSE Maths & English
- Extended Project Qualification - Level 3

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

AS/A LEVEL COURSES

For AS/A2 courses, students will be required to have 6 GCSE grades A*-C in six different subjects including at least a grade C in English and Mathematics. The majority of subjects require a minimum of a GCSE B grade to study at AS or A level in that subject. In Year 12 a subject will normally be allocated nine one hour lessons a fortnight with the expectation of at least another three hours of personal study outside lesson time each week.

VOCATIONAL CAMBRIDGE TECHNICAL COURSES

For the Cambridge Technical Level 2 courses, students should have at least 4 subjects at D grade at GCSE or above and for the Level 3 courses at least 5 subjects at C grade at GCSE or above.

CAMBRIDGE TECHNICAL PROGRAMME

We currently offer Level 2/3 courses in a range of subjects as part of a structured programme. Students will typically study two subjects, initially at level 2 and there will be a requirement to study GCSE English and Mathematics if a student does not already have a C grade at GCSE.

- Business Studies - Cambridge Technical
- Sport - Cambridge Technical (Levels 2 & 3)
- Health and Social Care - Cambridge Technical

A large proportion of students progress from year 12 into year 13 and 14 where they continue their studies at Level 3.

"I'm glad I chose Grove College - I've got just the course I want with teachers I already know."



A LEVEL COURSES

Most students will initially choose 4 subjects to study and in year 12 decide which 3 to continue to A level at the end of Year 13. All students currently take AS exams in all subjects at the end of Year 12. A few students may only study 3 A levels, and have extra study time. If students do not have a GCSE grade C in English or Mathematics, they will be required to study these subjects as well. Some students may want to improve their GCSE English and Mathematics grades and will be able to do so here at Grove College. There is also an opportunity to study a vocational Cambridge technical Level 3 qualification alongside A Levels.

Over the next few pages are brief summaries of the courses. For full details, please refer to the school website - www.groveschool.net.





SUBJECT INFORMATION

APPLIED ICT – A LEVEL

The increasing use of ICT within the business environment emphasises its relevance as an A Level subject. This course enables students to develop their understanding of the use of ICT for different business applications, along with the concepts of web and multimedia production. The course suits students who perform well when working independently due to the nature of the assessment and for students wishing to pursue ICT/business related employment.



ART & DESIGN - CAMBRIDGE TECHNICAL LEVEL 3

The Cambridge Technical Level 3 Art and Design qualification provides an understanding of art, design and craft through engagement with the work of artists and designers. Students have the opportunity to gain practical and creative skills by working with the 2D and 3D materials, processes and techniques of their choice. This course provides an excellent foundation for those students wishing to go on to further study or work in the following areas of design: fine art, graphic design, interior design, architecture, product design and photography.

BIOLOGY - A LEVEL

There has been an enormous breakthrough in knowledge in the field of natural science in recent years. Biology is the study of living organisms and students learn about the newest developments in biotechnology, gene technology, cloning, conservation, drug testing and forensics. An A level in Biology offers a wide range of employment prospects and links well with other disciplines such as Chemistry, Physics, Maths, Geography and Psychology. Qualified biologists have an important role in social, environmental, economic and technological contexts.

BUSINESS STUDIES - A LEVEL

This course will open up opportunities to many aspects of the world of commerce and is excellent preparation for those students intending to pursue further study. The skills learnt are also useful for a wide range of occupational areas. The course encourages students to develop a critical understanding of organisations; the context in which they operate; the markets they serve and the process of adding value through a problem-solving approach to study. Students should be in no doubt that they are undertaking a demanding yet rewarding course and they must be fully committed to their work.





BUSINESS STUDIES - CAMBRIDGE TECHNICAL LEVELS 2 & 3

Business is an important subject that is at the heart of the modern economy, encouraging innovative technologies, creating jobs and generating wealth. This course offers an opportunity to learn about the core business functions including: Management of People, Production, Marketing and Finance. Students will gain practical skills and knowledge that will help them move onto further education or prepare them for a future career in the business world. This course is 100% coursework so there are no examinations and all the units are based upon real life business situations.

Most students will study for an extended certificate in Business at Level 2. The opportunity may be available to study for a Level 3 Certificate in Business Studies dependent on GCSE results or successful completion of the Level 2 course.

CHEMISTRY – A LEVEL

A Level Chemistry involves the study of everything from basic chemical principles to organic Chemistry, physical Chemistry, inorganic Chemistry and instrumental techniques for analysis. Students use the principles, theories and practical skills they acquire to explore Chemistry and chemicals. Further study of Chemistry could lead to a career in medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, pharmacy, forensic science, environmental science or engineering.

ECONOMICS- A LEVEL

Economic issues affect the lives of everyone. This course is an intense and rigorous study of Micro-Economic and Macro-Economic models to understand the basic principle of market forces, market failure and the fundamentals of solutions to these problems. It will give a greater insight into topics such as inflation, unemployment, the balance of payments, stock markets and government intervention in the economy through taxation and interest rates and is a rewarding and challenging experience for students. The course will be excellent preparation for those students intending to pursue Business Studies at degree level. The skills learnt will be useful for a wide range of occupations and further study.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE- A LEVEL

Students will study both the written and spoken language and learn how language works in all its varieties. They will explore the way it develops and has changed through time. Detailed study of grammar, phonology, lexis, semantics and pragmatics and theories of language will give students the tools for analysis and comment. Students will be expected to do independent investigation work related to language in use and will also have the opportunity to develop and hone their own writing skills to suit specific audiences and for various purposes. English language is highly valued by universities and employers for the communication and analytical skills it develops and thus is a good companion to both Arts and Science subjects.

ENGLISH LITERATURE – A LEVEL

This course focuses on Literature written in English. Students are expected to read widely and independently including not only the set texts but also those of personal choice. Students engage creatively with a substantial body of texts, exploring contexts and reading from different theoretical starting points. Powers of literary analysis and evaluation are developed and a deeper understanding of the various traditions of literature in English is gained. For students who have a love of reading and really want the opportunity to develop their interpretative skills and widen their own range, this is the course for them. The course prepares students well for Higher Education courses in English, Law or in combination with other subjects. It makes a good companion with other Arts subjects and helps candidates explore and argue their case which is so vital for academic debate.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE- A LEVEL

This course allows an integrated approach to both Language and Literature, so will give a deeper understanding of both language and literature elements and enrich the experience of English. Designed to ensure the right balance and coverage of the two disciplines, this course enables students to see how linguistic and literary methods are related and to explore these links in their work. Students analyse a range of texts both (spoken, written) through an anthology, they study a poet and they study a knowledge. There is also something to hone those imaginative skills, with students having the opportunity to write creatively in the exam. For students who love English; love reading and writing, this course will give them a good grounding for Higher Education courses in English, Law, journalism.... the list goes on.



FRENCH – A LEVEL

The French A level course aims to develop an interest in, and enthusiasm for, language learning and to develop a student's ability to communicate confidently, clearly and effectively in the language for a range of purposes. Students also develop awareness and understanding of the contemporary society, cultural background and heritage of countries or communities where the language is spoken through the study of topics, which include leisure and lifestyles; the individual and society; environmental, social and political issues and also the study of films and books in French. By studying a modern foreign language at AS/A level a student acquires language skills and cultural awareness which can lead to greater opportunities in an increasingly international business world, in which accountants, lawyers and secretaries, for example, are required to travel and communicate with their counterparts in other countries. Increasingly, universities are offering courses that combine a language with another subject e.g. Law, Tourism and Business Studies.

GEOGRAPHY - A LEVEL

The A level Geography course is a relevant and up-to-date course, developing enquiry skills and enhancing knowledge and understanding of our modern world. Students study both Physical and Human Geography and topics include River and Coastal Environments, Cold and Hot Environments, Urban and Rural Change, the Growth of Tourism and Environmental Issues such as Earth Hazards, Ecosystems Under Threat and Climatic Hazards. Economic Issues such as Population and Resources, Globalisation and Development and Inequalities are also explored. Students also undertake a Geographical investigation based upon a fieldwork exercise which involves visits to several locations including a 4-day residential to the Birks Field Study Centre. Geography provides a sound basis for a wide range of careers including Environmental Management, Travel and Tourism, Planning and Surveying, Meteorology, Cartography, Mining, Health and Education, Armed Forces, Management and Marketing.



GERMAN - A LEVEL

The A level German course is designed to enable students to build on their skills at GCSE and learn how to communicate confidently, clearly and practically in the language for a range of purposes. Students study topics in leisure and lifestyle, environmental, social and political issues in order to develop an awareness and understanding of the culture and way of life of the German people. By studying a modern foreign language at AS/A level a student acquires language skills and cultural awareness which can lead to greater opportunities in the global business world which requires travel to and communication with other countries. Students can continue to study German at University and there are now many courses which combine the study of the language with other subjects, such as Law, Tourism and Business Studies.



HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE - CAMBRIDGE TECHNICAL LEVELS 2 & 3

With the demographic in the UK changing rapidly and the population living longer, Health and Social Care sectors will experience huge growth over the next few years. This course offers students a broad and in-depth foundation for either the modern workplace or further studies. As part of the course students will look at the rights and needs individuals have within Health and Social Care and have the opportunity to complete a work experience placement within the sector. This course is 100% coursework so there are no examinations.

Most students will study for an extended certificate in Health and Social Care at Level 2. The opportunity may be available to study for a Level 3 Certificate in Health and Social Care dependent on GCSE results or successful completion of the Level 2 course.

HISTORY - A LEVEL

The A level History course will sharpen analytical and communication skills through the study of source material, the examination of evidence and the sifting of fact from fiction. Students study World and British History and are also required to produce a personal study based on historical enquiry. It is academically challenging and is recognised and valued as such by employers and universities alike.

MATHEMATICS & FURTHER MATHEMATICS- A LEVEL

Mathematics at A level builds on topics studied at GCSE by extending the range of Mathematical techniques and includes topics such as Coordinate and Vector Geometry, Calculus, Sequences and Series. Students also study areas of Mathematics such as Statistics and Mechanics which aim to give them a better understanding of how Mathematics is applied in real-life situations. Mathematical knowledge is fundamental to many professions and complements studies in areas such as Science, Finance, Economics, Business, Computer Studies, and Engineering. An A level in Mathematics is acknowledged as a subject which requires high levels of disciplined and logical thinking and is widely welcomed by employers and Higher Education institutions.

Further Mathematics is designed for students with a particular aptitude for Mathematics and offers students the opportunity to further develop their algebraic techniques through the study of Matrices, Vectors and Complex Numbers. Students also study additional modules in other areas of Mathematics such as Differential Equations, Decision Mathematics and more Complex Mechanics. It is excellent preparation for degree courses with a high Mathematical content, such as Engineering, Physics, Accountancy and Economics, as well as Mathematics itself and is widely valued by Universities.

PERFORMING ARTS – CAMBRIDGE TECHNICAL LEVEL 3

A career in performing arts is one of the most exciting and versatile industries to work in. This qualification will help you develop your practical performance skills as well as prepare you for a career in a highly competitive environment. The course is designed to cover all aspects of performing arts; drama, music, dance and production and is appropriate for anybody who wants to study the performing arts and be assessed in ways that are practical and relevant to the sector. This qualification will give you a firm foundation for further study in performing arts or prepare you for a career in any area of the industry as well as enabling you to develop a range of other desirable skills including research, project management, co-operative group work and independent learning.



PHYSICS- A LEVEL

Physics is vital to our understanding of the universe. This course will challenge students with concepts such as the Theory of Relativity, the String Theory and the Big Bang Theory. Physics is crucial to our understanding of the world around us and students will study everything from Stellar Astrophysics down to particles and radiation. Studying for an A level in Physics develops a student's analytical skills and logical abilities which can be applied to a wide range of employment sectors, including Engineering.

PSYCHOLOGY – A LEVEL

Psychology is the scientific study of behaviour; what people (and animals) do and why they do it. Students will be required to use their curiosity and scepticism to view the world around them from a different perspective as they investigate how memory works, and study disorders such as schizophrenia and Alzheimer's. Anyone with an interest in a career in the Caring Services, Marketing, Business or Law will find an understanding of Psychology beneficial.

SOCIOLOGY - A LEVEL

Studying sociology offers insights into social and cultural issues. It helps students develop a multi-perspective and critical approach to understanding issues around culture, identity, religion, crime, childhood and social power. More than once during the course students are bound to ask themselves the question, "Why have we developed like this. Poverty, ignorance, crime, injustice... shouldn't we have left them in the Stone Age?".

Sociology is a great choice of subject for people who want a career in social work, nursing or medicine. But the subject is also useful in a number of other careers, like marketing, advertising, PR, journalism, law or teaching.

SPANISH - A LEVEL

Spanish is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world. With this in mind we offer students, with a keen interest in foreign languages who want to extend their knowledge of Spain and the Hispanic world, the opportunity to study A level Spanish. Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking skills are all assessed within the framework of four modules, covering the topic areas of Leisure and Lifestyles, the Individual and Society, Environmental, Social and Political issues. Students all study films and books in Spanish. Languages mix well with all subjects and are always well-regarded by universities as strong academic subjects.

SPORT - CAMBRIDGE TECHNICAL LEVELS 2 AND 3

This qualification will enable students to experience the wide range of activities and professions that are available in sport. During the course students learn about human anatomy, sports coaching, current issues in sport and health and fitness. They will have the opportunity to complete a variety of coaching courses which will build skills that will help them move to further education or towards a career in sport. This course is 100% coursework so there are no examinations.

Most students will study for a Level 3 Certificate in Sport dependent upon successful completion of the Level 2 qualification at the end of Year 11. There is an opportunity to study a Level 2 Extended Certificate for those new to the course and for students to extend their learning to a Diploma in Sport at Level 3 with further study. There is also the option to study Level 3 Sport alongside A Levels.

EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION – LEVEL 3

The Extended Project is a stand-alone qualification equivalent to an AS Level. Students may choose to take the Extended Project Qualification as an extension from studies for any other qualifications at Level 3 (GCE, BTEC, NVQ, other academic or vocational qualifications including Modern Apprenticeships).

The Extended Project will develop and extend from one or more of the student's study areas and/or from an area of personal interest or activity outside their main programme of study. It will be based on a topic chosen by the student and agreed as appropriate by the centre.

With appropriate supervision, students will need to complete the following tasks:

- Choose an area of interest;
- Draft a title and aims of the project for formal approval by the centre;
- Plan, research and carry out the project;
- Deliver a presentation to a specified audience;
- Provide evidence of all stages of project development and production for assessment.

Students normally start the Extended Project in the Spring/Summer Term of Year 12 and aim to complete it before Easter of Year 13.

ENRICHMENT

Everyone is encouraged to take advantage of the host of activities available outside the normal curriculum. Recently, these enrichment opportunities have included:

- Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Scheme
- Young Enterprise
- Community Sports Leadership
- Mentoring
- National Citizenship Scheme
- Assistant Librarianship
- Public Speaking
- Camps International
- Business Abroad visits
- Sporting Activities
- College Committee
- Help in faculties in Main School and the Individual Learning Centre.

The College Student Committee is elected each year to represent the student body. It is an important voice in the College and on the Grove School Council, which helps to plan for further development. The College Student Committee also organises social events. Each year, these typically include shopping and theatre visits, parties and the Leavers' Ball.

WHAT NEXT?

Before applying to Grove College students should:-

- Seek plenty of advice and guidance before choosing courses;
- Find out what new subjects are about;
- think about their predicted GCSE grades in relation to their choice of courses;
- Think what courses might be relevant to further or higher education or a career;
- Talk to tutors, subject teachers, College staff, careers advisers, present Grove College students.
- Be determined to work as hard as possible in order to gain the highest grades possible at the end of year 11.



"My tutor was really helpful when I applied to university."



HOW TO APPLY

Application forms are available from the College Office. Grove Students will be given application forms in the autumn term. Forms are also available on the school website - www.groveschool.net.

Please submit the form by the 15th of December, as this helps to ensure we can provide the courses requested and also allows us to make an early offer of a provisional place.

FURTHER INFORMATION

We hope that you have found this prospectus useful and informative.

Further details about Grove College and up-to-date information on the courses we offer can be found on our website.

If you have any questions, or would like to visit the College, please contact the College at the address on the back of this prospectus.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO
WELCOMING YOU TO
GROVE COLLEGE.

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