

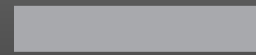


GROVE
SCHOOL & COLLEGE
A mind set to succeed

SCHOOL PROSPECTUS



A mind set to succeed





HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE



“The effectiveness of leadership and management is Good.”

Ofsted School Report | October 2015

We believe that the students of Market Drayton and beyond deserve the very best education. At The Grove School, we aim to create a centre of excellence by building a culture and ethos that creates opportunities for students to master key skills.

We strive to engender an infectious and lifelong enthusiasm for learning which will create a community with ambition and a sense of self-worth. We want our students to have self-belief and a mindset for personal growth.

We 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.

All of our students have the right to feel emotionally supported and valued and I will ensure Grove’s outstanding record in safeguarding children is maintained. Our vision is for all students to have a mind set to succeed which you will see on our logo throughout the School.

“Students have positive attitudes to learning and behave well. Strong relationships between staff and students create an atmosphere of respect and close co-operation where students feel safe at school. Students, including the most able, make good progress.”

Ofsted School Report | October 2015





ABOUT OUR SCHOOL



The Grove School aims to develop learners who are confident, resilient, enquiring and creative. We want our students to be respectful and take pride in their achievements and successes. We also take pride in our unique environment.

The Grove School and College stand together on a large and beautiful site bounded by the River Tern and the Shropshire Union Canal.

The Grove is Market Drayton's only secondary school and the School and College together form a comprehensive school which admits boys and girls and provides courses for 11-19 year old students of all abilities. The Grove serves not only the town of Market Drayton but also a wide area of North East Shropshire. A number of students from Staffordshire also attend. It is the natural choice of school for all students in the area.

The Grove is a focal point for the community, both for its buildings and facilities which are widely used outside of normal school hours.

The staff and governors take the responsibility of

Grove being the only school within this area very seriously and it is their aim for the community to be proud of their school and for parents and carers to know that they have in The Grove a school offering a high standard of education within a supportive environment.

The Grove School is proud of its uniform and it is the policy of governors and the School Leadership Team that it is worn correctly by all students. Our new uniform has been designed in consultation with students. It sets off our new logo and students are wearing it with pride.

"Governors are making sure the school serves this particular community effectively. They are well-informed, shrewd and provide a rigorous challenge to school leadership."





CURRICULUM



The Grove School aims to provide a broad and flexible curriculum. This allows all students to achieve through engaging in courses that they find interesting, stimulating and appropriate to their needs.

Students are placed in teaching groups according to their ability for the majority of subjects. Groups are regularly reviewed, particularly in the first term and following progress reports, changes are made where necessary.

Students follow the same programmes across the year group so that changes between teaching groups can be made easily. This arrangement gives students the opportunity to be supported in their education and make progress at the level that

“The school offers to all year groups a wide range of subjects and courses that meet the needs of students while encouraging them to broaden their horizons and have high aspirations.”

Ofsted School Report | October

In Key stage 3 (Year 7 and 8), The Grove’s curriculum matches the requirements of the National Curriculum. In Year 7 and 8 all students study English, Maths, Science, Computing, History, Geography, Religious Education, Physical Education, Art, Music, Design Technology, a Modern Foreign Language and Drama. PHSEE is covered through our new and exciting Discovery Days’ Programme where a collapsed curriculum allows the flexibility for a range of visits and outside speakers. Students generally remain in the same tutor group and remain in ability sets for the majority of subjects.

During Year 8 students will go through the process of selecting GCSE options for Year 9. The Key Stage 4 curriculum is 3 years offering more time for foundation and consolidation work.



CURRICULUM



“There are high expectations which have re-focused and energised the vast majority of staff and students.”

Student progress is monitored regularly in all subject areas. Parents and carers receive a termly progress report detailing their child's target levels in each subject and their progress towards these targets. Parents also receive information on their child's attitude to learning which is graded in every lesson. We believe in the importance of communicating with parents and there is at least one parents' evening each year, when parents are invited to make appointments with subject teachers and tutors to discuss their child's progress. If there are any concerns at other times, parents are free to contact staff to arrange an appointment to discuss any issues.

We communicate regularly with parents and carers via the school website, where the school calendar, newsletters, current policies and news of recent events can be found. We also use email and text parents through Wisepay and via letter and newsletter, which is produced termly and is packed with information, diary dates and reports of recent events.





SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

“Disabled students and those with special education needs learn well. They benefit from the school’s tailored curriculum for Year 7 and 8. Staff who are well trained and fully understand the particular needs of individual students pay particular attention to literacy and numeracy while ensuring that students have access to the full curriculum.”

The Grove devotes great care and attention to ensuring that all children experience success, make progress and achieve well. Where a student has a particular academic or pastoral need, we work hard to support them by:

- involving them and their parents and carers in monitoring their progress;
- raising their self-esteem;
- accessing outside support for them;
- celebrating their successes.

The Grove has a dedicated team of highly committed staff including a SENCo (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator) and Learning Support Advisors who give particular attention to students with a range of needs.

We have close relationships with our feeder schools and have an excellent record of transition arrangements. We encourage parents and carers to bring any concerns about their child to our attention and we can arrange separate tours of the



The Special Educational Needs Code of Practice identifies provision for children with Special Educational Needs (SEN). The first responses are school-based. However, as the need arises, we call upon the expertise and advice of external agencies, actively seeking their support for specific children.

We also have our own counsellor and dedicated





MOST ABLE



MOST ABLE STUDENTS

At The Grove we believe that every student should strive to achieve their best. Lesson planning caters for all abilities and there is stretch and challenge for students who are identified as Most Able. These students are invited to take part in a range of activities within school as well as visits to a variety of places in order to give them the opportunity to broaden and enrich their learning.

We have links with Keele University; students take part in competitions; masterclasses in Mathematics and Art. We also have a link with Cambridge University and our Year 10 students attend a residential at St John's College every summer term.

“Inspectors saw the most able students responding well where tasks challenged their thinking and encouraged them to be curious.”



EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Our curriculum is enhanced and enriched by a wide range of extra-curricular activities to suit all interests. Opportunities include: sports; instrumental lessons; school productions; music clubs; Grove's Got Talent; theatre visits; visits abroad with Camps International; Ironbridge Ingenuity; Science Week at the NEC; Blue Planet Aquarium; Cadbury World; Oxford Natural History Museum; Duke of Edinburgh and the Young Enterprise Programme.

Students also get the opportunity to engage in student support and act as part of the leadership team to have a voice in helping to shape the School's development.





DISCOVERY DAYS | NO LIMITS

DISCOVERY DAYS

The Grove offers its personal, health, social and emotional education (PHSEE) through an exciting and innovative programme called Discovery Days. For five days each year, students work alongside their tutors and peer group investigating a range of issues dealing with their daily well-being. This provides the opportunity for exploration and discovery both in and outside of the classroom.

Talks from experts range across issues such as: road safety, anti-social behaviour, rural safety, what it is like to be a refugee. Discovery Days also highlight understanding of global interconnectedness through different cultures and religions, highlighting the role British values has to play in today's society.

Discovery Days are tailored to meet the needs of both the individual and the wider school as a whole, in matters arising from the fast-paced global society in which we live today.



NO LIMITS

In addition to the Discovery Day Programme, during the last term each year we offer a three day No Limits experience. This was launched for the first time last summer and was hugely successful with students enjoying some fabulous experiences.

There are a variety of activities offered to the students of Years 7, 8 and 9. Run both on site and away from The Grove, No Limits offers a range of fun and exciting activities that push students out of their comfort zones and challenge their capacity to try something different and new.

We offer a wide-ranging and engaging No Limits programme, and from sports to the arts, science to music, all tastes are catered for including: trips to Alton Towers; Drayton Manor Park; Chester Zoo; Flip out and Jump Nation; Zorb Football; It's a Knockout; Retro gaming; Grove Scene Investigation; Ready Steady Cook, Rockets and much more!

The No limits Programme fosters skills of individual



CARE, GUIDANCE AND SUP-

At The Grove School, we place students at the heart of everything we do. When students join us, they are placed in a tutor group with their peers.

The tutor is the person any student can turn to if they have a problem. Tutors are responsible for monitoring student well-being, progress and helping them to be actively involved in their own learning by setting targets and planning how they can improve.

We have developed a comprehensive programme to advise students on careers and training choices as they prepare for the world of work. Every student has access to careers' advice and guidance through our annual careers' convention.

We believe in strong leadership and at The Grove everyone is encouraged to be a leader—none more so than our students. We have a group of students from all years who are our Student Ambassadors. This group of students form leadership groups exploring key areas of development in school. These are good citizens; charity and community cohesion; learning and teaching; able and talented students; e-safety and anti-bullying and CPR (Consistence, Persistence, Resilience). We are proud that our ambassadors are here to support all students particularly those in Year 7 and take an active part in the transition process.

Communication with parents and carers is very important to us. Should you have any issues that you wish to discuss with a member of staff, you can contact reception and ask to speak to your child's Pastoral Support Assistant. These colleagues are non-teaching members of staff who are available throughout the day to address pastoral care issues including issues with social situations and general well-being.

If you have any questions about your child's progress within their subject areas, teaching staff and progress leaders are also available to support you.

The Individual Learning Centre (ILC)

The ILC is a facility which caters for all abilities and provides a high standard of support for students who need a more personalised learning programme. It aims to:

- promote an engaging learning environment for students who may not be able to access mainstream education;
- increase attendance;
- enable students to articulate their specific needs on a personal level and feel supported;
- raise awareness of the availability of a wide network of other agencies to enhance student choices and reduce risk.

Specially trained volunteers from the community and Grove College give their time and experience to act as mentors to students in need of support. In addition, peer mentors give up their time to provide invaluable support and advice younger chil-

"The behaviour of student is good... Students rightly feel very safe in school."

"Students reported that the large school site is well supervised. They say that incidents of bullying are rare and that staff deal with them effectively when they arise."

dren. Support staff and teachers from the school may also act as mentors.





REWARDS | HIGH EXPECTA-



REWARDS

We are proud to celebrate a wide range of achievements which are recognised by teachers, tutors and Director of Studies. Our rewards' system incorporates four main areas:

- attitude to learning scores;
- attendance;
- positive contribution in tutor time;
- academic progress.

Students who are consistently demonstrating a positive contribution in some or all of these areas will be rewarded through a numbers of different ways which include positive postcards, letters and end of term events such as Winter Wonderland. Our progress and presentation evenings also provide us with the opportunity to celebrate with parents and acknowledge publically the hard work and effort of our students.

We acknowledge students who have made the most progress each term by termly Progress Awards. This leads to an annual Presentation Evening where Awards for Excellence are given to students for their academic progress, exceptional effort or achievement, or 100% attendance.

HIGH EXPECTATIONS

At The Grove, we expect a high standard of behaviour and a positive attitude to learning. If a student does not meet these high students they should expect their actions to have consequences. There are school systems to support issues with behaviour or attitude to work, and problems with attendance and punctuality. Students are monitored lesson by lesson to promote positive attitudes so that support can be offered that is helpful and timely.

RESTORATIVE PRACTICE

To support our high expectations of behaviour we are excited this year to have adopted a restorative practice approach with our students. This ensures that they focus on developing their confidence in handling challenging situations.





FACILITIES



FACILITIES

The Grove has excellent facilities and we believe that our students will learn well in an environment that is modern, vibrant and lively. We are undertaking window replacement to improve the aesthetics of the building and are looking forward to another science laboratory refurbishment. All subjects have a suite of rooms well-equipped to meet the demands of each curriculum area with ICT facilities, such as computers and interactive whiteboards. We also have some Apple Macs for more creative work.

In addition there is a hall with a stage and a separate drama studio. Particular facilities include ten science laboratories, most of which have been recently refurbished, technology workshops, a food and textiles technology suite as well as a music area with several practice rooms. We have a good range of sporting facilities including pitches

CAFFÈ BOSCHETTO

Our Bistro, Caffè Boschetto, was designed by a student group alongside a professional design company. It has a cosmopolitan feel and provides a wide variety of hot and cold food at breakfast, break time, lunch times and after school. Vegetarian and specialist diets are also catered for. Caffè Boschetto benefits from a cashless catering service.

We are proud to operate our own independent catering service using locally sourced produce and products to ensure the best quality in all our meals which are prepared on site. All meals are produced to the National Nutritional Standards and we are proud to be a recognised Healthy School.





THE BIRKS



THE BIRKS

The school is privileged to have its own field and study centre which is located in the Duddon Valley in the Lake District. The centre was purchased by the School's PTA in 1985 and continues to be managed by the PTA.

Since this time hundreds of Grove students and many members of staff have benefitted significantly from spending time at the Birks, not only through the academic opportunities provided by the location but also by being given an opportunity to develop invaluable social skills; learn to work as part of a team and to establish the sort of friendships that last a lifetime.

Grove students have the opportunity to spend time at the Birks in Year 8 and in other years as part of their curriculum enrichment.





GROVE COLLEGE



Grove College caters for 16-19 year-old students, sharing staffing and facilities with The Grove School. Students can enjoy the best of both worlds: being members of a College community, whilst having use of the resources of the whole school site.

The facilities in Grove House are for College student use. These include study rooms, ICT facilities, a social area, a careers' hub and a café.

Students can also use the main school library at any time for study and research. There is no uniform for College students, but we do ask for dress to be appropriate for work.

All students have a personal tutor with whom they meet on a regular basis. The tutor monitors attendance and progress as well as being available to offer advice on any matter, including progression to Higher Education and employment.

We offer a wide range of A-level courses and there are an increasing number of vocational level 2 and 3 courses at Grove College. Subjects are taught by Grove staff. In addition to their main academic options, students can also take advantage of many enrichment opportunities including: the Extended Project; Young Enterprise; Community Sports Leader Award; Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme; Classroom Support and a wide range of visits.

There is also a college committee who organise charity events, social activities and a summer ball. Many college students take on the role of ambassadors within the School.

“16-19 Study programmes are Good.”

Ofsted School Report | October 2015





GROVE SCHOOL | A MIND SET TO





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