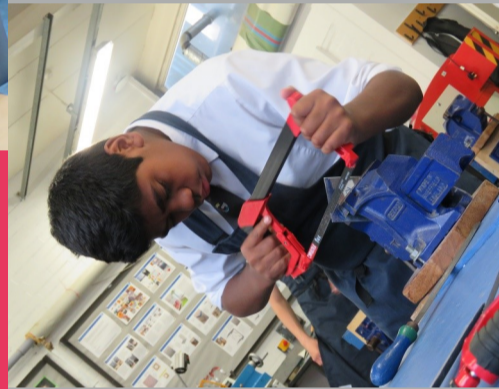


Positivity



Trust

Resilience



Determination



SCHOOL PROSPECTUS





WELCOME TO THE GROVE



I believe that the students of Market Drayton and beyond deserve the very best education and 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, lifelong enthusiasm for learning, creating a community with ambition; a sense of self-worth; belief and personal growth; able to succeed in an ever-changing world.

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. All of our students have the right to feel emotionally supported and valued and I will ensure that The Grove's outstanding record in safe-guarding 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.

Sonia Taylor | Headteacher

“The headteacher is not complacent and she implements necessary changes to develop the quality of teaching and learning.”

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ABOUT THE GROVE SCHOOL



The Grove School aims to develop learners who are confident, resilient, enquiring, creative and respectful; who take pride in their achievements and successes.

The Grove is Market Drayton's only secondary school and the School and College together form a comprehensive school offering 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.

The Grove is a focal point for the community, both for its buildings and facilities which are widely used outside normal school hours, and because it is the natural choice of school for all students in the area.

The staff and governors take very seriously the responsibility of The Grove being the only school within this area 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.

Confident

Resilient

Enquiring

Creative

Respectful

G CURRICULUM



The Grove School aims to provide a broad and flexible curriculum. This allows all students to achieve well 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. In Maths lessons in Year 7, 8 & 9, students are placed in mixed attaining groups and this has proved to be excellent for all students regardless of their prior attainment. All groups are regularly reviewed, particularly in the first term.

Students follow the same programmes across the year group so that changes between teaching groups can be made easily. They remain in the same tutor group throughout the year. These arrangements give students the opportunity to be supported in their education and make excellent progress.

At Key Stage 3 students study: English, Mathematics, Science, Computing, History, Geography, Religious Education, Physical Education, Art, Design Technology, Food, Music and Modern Foreign Language. PHSE is delivered through our exciting and engaging Discovery Day Programme.

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

**Bright Futures
Start at
The Grove**

G CURRICULUM



Student progress is monitored regularly in all subject areas. Parents/carers receive a termly progress report detailing their child's progress towards their personalised target in each subject. Parents also receive information on their child's attitudes to learning. There is one progress day each year, when parents/carers meet with staff to discuss their child's progress. If there are any concerns at other times, parents/carers are free to contact staff to arrange an appointment to discuss any issues.

This year we have introduced *Learning Journeys*. These break down the specific learning for every topic taught in every subject and ensure that students are clear about their targets, current progress and what they need to do to improve.

"Leaders are taking strong actions to ensure that outcomes for all groups of pupils improve rapidly."

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LEARNING JOURNEYS | THE EDGE

LEARNING JOURNEYS

Monitoring students' progress is essential to ensure all students make excellent progress. This year we have introduced *Learning Journeys*. These *Learning Journeys* break down the individual content and skills that students will need to learn in every topic they study. This means that you can see at a glance, by opening your child's exercise book, what they are learning, where they are in their Learning Journey and what they need to do to improve. You will also be able to see their target levels on the front of every exercise book.



Leadership
Organisation
Resilience
Initiative
Communication

THE EDGE

Throughout Year 7 and 8 students at The Grove will work towards the *PiXL Edge* award. In completing this award students will develop key skills that will not only support them in their future studies but in the wider world of work. Covering a wide range of skills including Leadership, Organisation, Resilience, Initiative and Communication (LORIC), *The Edge* is the perfect award to support our students' development.

All students are enrolled on *The Edge Programme*. They plan and log their activities and provide evaluations for each LORIC attribute. We hope this will encourage them to get involved in as many extra-curricular opportunities as possible both in and out of school – some of which they may have never even thought of before now! We want to ensure that your child leaves The Grove not only with the best qualifications possible but with a range of personal attributes allowing them to stand out from the crowd and achieve their goals. Competition for university places, apprenticeships and employment today is ever increasing and together we can help your child embrace this programme that will undoubtedly give them the Edge.

The **PiXL**Edge



SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL



The Grove devotes great care and attention to ensuring that all children are successful, make good 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/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 SENDCo 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/carers to bring any concerns about their child to our attention as soon as possible.

We can arrange separate tours of the School for children who feel a little daunted on Open Evenings.

Special Educational Needs Code of Practice

This document outlines responses to be made in the case of identifying and providing for children with Special Educational Needs. 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 issues with children.





CARE | GUIDANCE | SUPPORT

SUPPORTING STUDENTS

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 a tutor who is responsible for monitoring student progress and helping them to be actively involved in their own learning. The tutor is a person any student can turn to if they have a problem.

We have developed an exciting 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.

Everyone at The Grove is a leader. We have a group of students from all years who are Student Ambassadors. These students form leadership groups and are doing valuable work both within the School and in the local community.

Communication with parents and carers is very important to us. Should you have any concerns 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.

Parent Drop-Ins run every Thursday from 15:15 to 16:30 in the Library. Please feel free to drop in to talk to the Headteacher and the Senior Leadership Team.

Pastoral support assistants are non-teaching staff who are available throughout the day to address pastoral care issues or issues with social situations and general well-being.

If you are concerned about your child's progress within their subject areas, teaching staff, Heads of Year and Directors of Study, are also available to support you.

The Student Support Zone

The SSZ is a facility which provides a high standard of support for students who need a more personalised learning programmes. It aims to:

- promote an engaging learning environment for students who may not be able to access mainstream education;
- enable students to articulate their specific needs on a personal level and feel supported;
- raise awareness of the wide network of other agencies which can offer support.

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 support and advise younger children. Support staff and teachers from the school may also act as mentors.





REWARDS | EXPECTATIONS



REWARDS

We are proud to celebrate students' achievements which are recognised by teachers, tutors and Director of Studies.

Our rewards system incorporates four main areas:

- Attitudes to Learning scores (AtLs)
- Attendance and punctuality
- Positive contributions
- Academic effort and progress

Students who are consistently demonstrating a positive contribution in some or all of these areas are rewarded through a number of different ways which include positive postcards, letters and end of term events such as Winter Wonderland and the Christmas Pizza Party.

We acknowledge students who have made the most progress each term across the range of subjects by termly Progress Awards. This then culminates in an annual Presentation Evening where Awards for Excellence are given to students for their academic progress, exceptional effort or achievement, or 100% attendance. We are proud to have Inspirational speakers at our events. Last year we were inspired by Kayode Damali who can currently be seen on "The Apprentice" and this year Ben Dyer spoke to students and their parents about his business enterprise.





STRETCH AND CHALLENGE | EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVI-



STRETCH AND CHALLENGE

Students who are identified as more and most able 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. Students take part in master-classes in Mathematics (Extreme Maths at Colemendy) and Art.

We also have a link with Cambridge University and our students attend a residential at St John's College every Summer Term.



“Pupils are confident and polite. The vast majority are proud of their school. Many pupils take part in extra-curricular activities and are involved in aspects of the school community. For example, some Year 10 pupils are supporting Year 8 pupils with their work in mathematics. Some pupils volunteer as ‘anti-bullying ambassadors.’”

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EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The Grove School is proud of the broad and balanced curriculum that is offered to students across the full ability range. The curriculum is enriched by a wide range of extracurricular activities to suit all interests: sports; instrumental lessons; school productions; music clubs; Grove's Got Talent; theatre visits; Visits abroad with Camps International; Ironbridge Enginuity; War Hammer; Science Week at the NEC; Blue Planet Aquarium; Cadbury World; Oxford Natural History Museum; Duke of Edinburgh Award; The Young Enterprise Programme.



DISCOVERY DAYS | NO LIMITS

DISCOVERY DAYS

The Grove offers its personal, health, social and emotional education through an exciting and innovative programme called Discovery Days. For five days each year, students follow an innovative school day working 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.

As well as the variety on offer there is the opportunity to explore Careers, Advice and Guidance. We work closely with local education providers, enterprise and engineering firms to ensure our students are prepared for the world of work through our North Shropshire Careers Fair and links with Keele University for our Interview Experience Day.

Similarly, Discovery Days offer the students access to a dedicated Sexual Health and Relationship Education Team, who have had expert training in guiding students through the complexities of growing up and becoming young adults. They also explore the pitfalls of peer pressure, exam stresses and drug awareness.

NO LIMITS

In addition to the Discovery Day programme, during the last term each year we offer a *No Limits* experience. This is a hugely successful event for the students who get to participate in some fabulous activities. Opportunities are 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 challenges 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:

- Visits to Alton Towers and Drayton Manor Park.
- Chester Zoo, West Midlands Safari Park and The Crocky Trail.
- Zorb Football, It's a Knockout, Retro gaming, Grove Scene Investigation. Ready Steady Cook, Rockets and many more!

No limits fosters skills of individual expression as well as teamwork and instils a sense of accomplishment for all those who take part!



FACILITIES | THE BIRKS

FACILITIES

The Grove has excellent facilities. All subjects have a suite of rooms well-equipped to meet the demands of each curriculum area with recently upgraded ICT facilities, such as computers and interactive whiteboards.

In addition there is a hall with a stage and a separate Drama Studio. Particular facilities include a recently opened Science laboratory and several recently refurbished labs, technology workshops, a food and textiles technology suite and an open-plan pottery area as well as a music area with several practice rooms. We have a good range of sporting facilities including pitches and hard courts, a gymnasium, sports hall and fitness suite.

1-2-1 Devices

Our vision is that every student at The Grove will have their own Chromebook enabling a vital link between learning at school and at home. Chromebooks are extremely secure, easy to use and facilitate both independent study and online collaboration. Through the use of Google Apps for Education we are able to further improve student engagement and open the door to wider learning. The Chromebooks with the management console ensure that all students are able to access all of the same resources, applications, wherever they are in the world and enable teacher to deliver the curriculum in the most exciting and engaging way.



THE BIRKS

The School has its own field and study centre which is located in 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 social skills, learn to work as part of a team and to establish the sort of friendships that last a lifetime.

Grove students continue to 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 include study rooms, ICT facilities, a social area, a careers' hub and a newly refurbished café.

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.

Students 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, such as the MacMillan Coffee Morning, social activities, a summer ball and many college students take on the role of ambassadors within the School.

“Learners are well looked after in the sixth form. There is a wide range of courses for learners to choose from. The school dedicates a lot of resources to ensure that support and guidance meet the needs of the learners. They enjoy small class sizes. As a result, the retention rate in the 16 to 19 programmes is high.”

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GROVE
SCHOOL & COLLEGE

A mind set to succeed

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