



An all through school for 4-18 year olds





ONE VISION

Grove Academy is the first all through school to open in Slough, offering pupils from the age of 4 to 18 a unique and exciting experience. Grove was established through a unique and innovative partnership involving the Slough Association of Secondary Headteachers (SASH). The aim of the SASH Education Trust is to provide a vibrant education for local pupils and Grove is at the centre of the strategy to ensure there is the widest possible curriculum choice for the young people of Slough.

The school is delivering a curriculum that focuses on making learning relevant and real, enriched with hands on experiences. A curriculum that encourages enterprise opportunities at all levels, enabling our pupils to be confident, responsible and active citizens of Slough. Our pupils are resilient and creative learners, able to apply their learning to real life situations.

Our pupils are happy and safe within a unique collaborative learning community where we learn from the best practises in both primary and secondary.

As a Slough resident I am very proud to be leading Grove Academy and to work with families to develop this new, amazing all through school. I am passionate about enabling children to take responsibility for their learning and I am looking forward to developing the Grove Academy vision into a learning community for local families to be proud of.

Ms Andrea Fricker
Principal



ONE SOLUTION

Continuous provision

Grove is the first all through school to open in Slough and provides a continuous provision from Early Years to 6th form, underpinned by high quality teaching and learning and a common assessment framework.

That continuity ensures that we can avoid the dips in performance associated with transition from one school to another.

Being one school we are able to teach subjects to our younger children via specialist subject teachers, such as modern foreign languages and PE.

We are able to provide pastoral care for children in challenging circumstances by offering a 'joined up' strategy and support families more consistently over a longer time.

Unique learning community

We are developing teaching and learning by sharing expertise across phases and learning from the best practises in both primary and secondary education. We are working closely with local businesses and services to ensure that the curriculum provided enables pupils to gain the skills and expertise required by employers.

A photograph of two young boys in school uniforms (dark grey suits, white shirts, and teal ties) looking down at a document together. The boy on the left is holding a pen, and the boy on the right is holding a red marker. A large, semi-transparent white circle is overlaid on the center of the image, containing text.

Small school by heart

When full, Grove Academy will be a 1,940 place co-educational school, including a 200 place sixth form. It will be a large community with a small school feeling at its heart.

The building on our permanent site in Chalvey is being designed to enable us to work together as one; but at the same time, through careful planning and management, pupils of all ages can get on with their own learning without disruption.

Our Teaching and Learning Communities approach means that we will be able to create a friendly school where pupils are seen as individuals, not simply members of a large group. Our older pupils will be able to be good role models and mentors for our younger children. We will develop creative solutions by drawing on the ideas and inspiration of the whole school community.

ONE SET OF VALUES

Staff and governors at Grove are driven by a shared passion for education and for developing well rounded young people who will leave us at the age of 18 years. Grove Academy values run through everything we do and are the backbone of our curriculum.



General ethos

This is central to our values. If children are to stay with us throughout their school life, Grove must provide:

- Happy memories
- Fun and enjoyment
- A love of learning
- A sense of community



Character

Character and a real growth mind-set are crucial to ensure they

- Develop self confidence
- Reach their full potential
- Develop a sense of spirituality
- Have an understanding of their own wellbeing and good health



Community

As members of different communities and teams we will focus on

- Friendship
- Relationships and trust
- Teamwork and collaboration
- Global awareness and responsibility
- Cultural appreciation



Core skills

These drive our curriculum

- Managing time and resources
 - Communication and oracy
 - Digital literacy
 - Creativity and thinking skills
 - Problem solving
 - Entrepreneurial



Resilience

Our mantra is “We can’t do that ...YET!”
We learn from our mistakes and our pupils will develop the skills to ‘bounce back’ when things go wrong.

We learn to:

- Deal with conflict
- Cope with disappointment
- Manage risk and uncertainty

ONE RICH CURRICULUM

Our goal is to ensure that pupils can go on to get excellent jobs locally and help to sustain the growth of the local community by cultivating a workforce with the mind-set and skills to adapt and compete in an ever changing world. A curriculum that delivers enterprise opportunities.

Creative and innovative

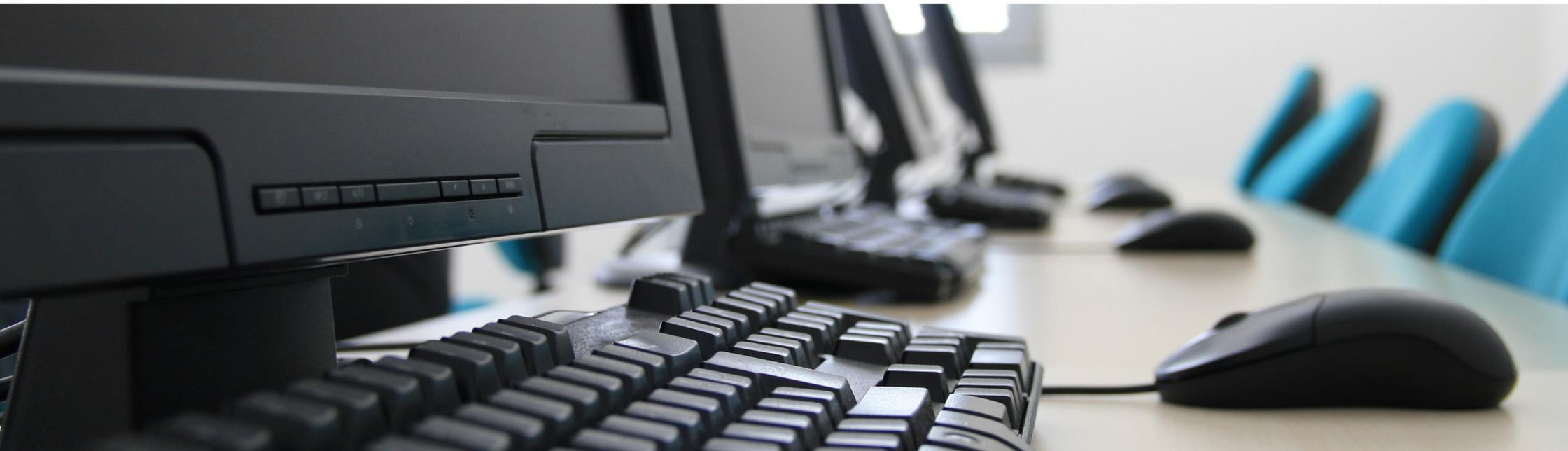
The excitement and achievement of learning are not just for the classroom, they are for the future – for life.

We deliver a broad and balanced curriculum that:

- Is creative and innovative
- Focuses on the depth of learning
- And focuses on real life learning with a clear purpose

The curriculum provided enables access by all learners to high quality and diverse learning opportunities relevant to their individual needs and enabling them to develop the skills and expertise to be 'work or university ready' in the future.

We do not know yet what those jobs will be when our pupils leave Grove Academy, so we will work on developing character, core skills and resilience.



Project based learning

Our curriculum is centred around 'project based learning' with real life products or outcomes to drive it. Teachers devise projects or 'vehicles for learning' that are linked to activities that people do in the real world, that stretches the pupils, ignites their imagination and is true to our values.

This approach is developed in different ways across both the primary and secondary phases and compliments specialist subject teaching.

We will exploit the contacts and opportunities of being in a lively town by working with other organisations and companies to provide our pupils with real work experiences. They will learn the skills and roles of working together in teams for a common goal. There is a clear emphasis on innovation and leadership. The curriculum encourages problem solving, critical reflection, research and challenge and the development of analytical skills fostering the business men and women of the future.

All pupils are encouraged and given the confidence to participate in decision making, providing support and/or creative input across the three areas of family well-being, public service and generating wealth. Through this we will develop self-confident and responsible pupils who contribute to the local community of Slough and who will be well placed to become leaders of the future.



Getting the basics right

The strong teaching of English and Maths will ensure our pupils master the basics and build on that as they go through the school.

The robust teaching of phonics, strong guided reading sessions and a culture of a love of reading will ensure that our pupils develop the ability to access complex texts across the curriculum, as well as enjoy reading, which will hold them in good stead throughout their school life.

Also there will be a focus on the clarity of speech across all subjects, in all phases and in front of a range of audiences in order to ensure our pupils leave with good oracy skills. Pupils will be specifically taught good oracy for job interviews and public speaking.





ONE UNIQUE CHILD

We believe that every one of our pupils is unique and on their own learning journey. We therefore focus on early communication with new parents to understand their child's individual strengths and needs and maintain that close relationship with the family whilst their child is with us.

We are an inclusive school providing an education model that is able to adapt to a wide range of learning styles and needs. Our 'Learning Hub' is the centre of Grove offering additional support and challenge as well as supporting the induction process.

Our job is to remove all barriers that might prevent a child from achieving the best that they can. We will not let labels limit a child's learning.

We will coordinate and participate in multi professional teams around the child and family when additional professional care or intervention is required, to ensure that pupil and family views are represented in planning to meet the child's needs.

ONE COMMUNITY

Working in partnership

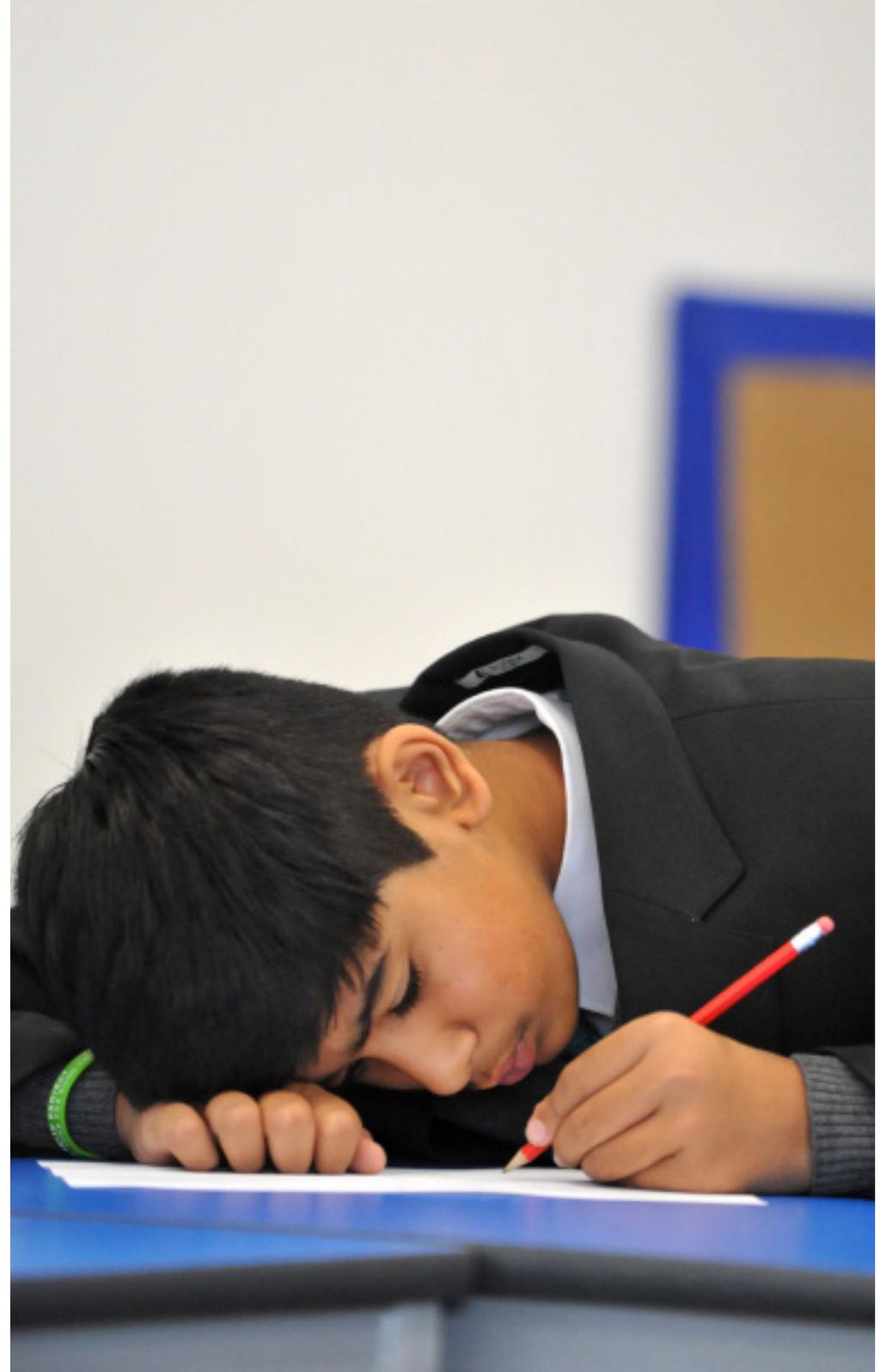
We believe that pupils achieve best when parents and teachers work together in partnership to support learning. We strongly encourage parents to be part of their child's education. Attending parents' evenings. Helping in school, attending information sessions and a wide range of other organised activities help parents understand the work of the school and how children can make the most of their time with us.

We have workshops where parents find out about how and what their children learn and how they can provide support at home. We will always be looking for new ways to work with parents and welcome any suggestions.

Before children start in Reception, parents will be invited to attend an induction meeting where they will meet the staff who will be teaching and caring for their child. Staff will also organise home visits so that the children get to know staff in a familiar setting. This is an opportunity for parents to share information about the child so that we can get the learning experience right for the child from the very beginning of their time at Grove.

Smooth transitions

We have an induction process for pupils who join the school in all other year groups, working very closely with other schools to ensure a smooth transition.



NO LIMITS

A growth mind set

We believe that effort and resilience makes the difference. It is a belief that if a child has confidence in themselves they can achieve more than they thought possible. Our mantra is
"We can't do it ...YET!"

We do not discuss ability or talent, but effort and success. We believe in challenging all of our children and in providing the support so that they are able to challenge themselves and have a clear understanding of what to do next.

A corner stone of a curriculum is that of high expectations and critique. This gives pupils the opportunity to learn from each others work and reflect on their learning in a structured, safe context. Feedback from peers and teachers will be focused on how they can improve their work through multiple drafts.

A key priority is to develop a language of talking about their thinking, to reflect and to review. The focus is on developing the skills to be an effective and reflective learner.





ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES

From the moment a child joins Grove Academy they begin an exciting journey of learning that will take them to many places, both near and far. We will provide a wealth of opportunities for pupils to enjoy their educational experiences and to shine!

Whilst making sure that safety is at the forefront of everything we do, we understand that it is important that children are able to recognise and manage risks in everyday life. Therefore we will encourage the pupils to take part in more adventurous activities. This could range from the youngest children learning to enjoy the playground safely, moving onto outdoor adventure centres and taking part in sports, such as climbing and canoeing.

Not only will we make the most of the wealth of local facilities and outdoor spaces around Slough, but we will take our children further afield, including trips abroad.

Children will have access to a wide range of extra-curricular activities and clubs run by both our own staff and external agencies.

In all phases we will encourage the pupils to take part in activities that provide a healthy lifestyle.

Why choose more than one?

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