



# THE GRANGE SCHOOL



SCHOOL PROSPECTUS FOR 2024 ENTRY



## A MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Here at The Grange School we believe that all children have a desire to be successful at something and respond positively when this is recognised. We believe in developing the whole child; numeracy and literacy are important but art, drama, music and physical education contribute massively to the self-worth of students. They can give them the reason for being at school.

Academic achievement is important and makes a difference to the lives of young people. We place value on the importance of English, Mathematics, Science and ICT but at the same time we make sure that young people have appropriate pathways for learning into adult life.

As a school we realise how important it is to recognise the achievements of young people in as many different ways as possible. We place value on rewarding students who make a positive contribution to school life. It is important that our students feel that their positive involvement in school life is valued and appreciated.

The Grange School serves the local community and gives certainty to those who need it. We are a caring school whereby students enjoy the experience but at the same time we set high expectations. We believe in creating a culture whereby students can learn to be successful.

*Vince Murray*

*“Leaders have fostered a sense of teamwork at the school. Morale is high and staff are proud of the improvement made during this particularly challenging time last year.”*

*(Ofsted 2021)*





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## THE SCHOOL PROSPECTUS

The Grange School is a mixed upper school for students aged 11-19 years. We are an inclusive school whereby we expect both high standards of behaviour and students to work to their full potential. The school is recognised for its caring environment where we help individuals develop social awareness and encourage them to gain respect for themselves and each other.

We believe in working closely with parents in order that students can develop their abilities, aptitudes and personalities to the full. *Our individual approach ensures that we are fully aware of the current strengths, as well as areas for improvement, for our students. Working in partnership with parents ensures high standards of quality and attainment, in both an academic and a social context.*

We will be delighted if you would like to look around our school and meet the staff and students. Please contact the school to make an appointment on 01296 390900. Visitors are given a warm welcome on any school day.

*“The Grange offers a broad academic curriculum, which leaders are currently making more ambitious for all pupils.”*

*(Ofsted 2021)*

## THE CURRICULUM

The curriculum is planned as a whole, with the aim of providing a broad, balanced and relevant programme of study for all. We are continually developing our curriculum to provide for the needs of our students with the view that we can provide a personalised curriculum for all. This is set within the framework of the National Curriculum. We strive to foster an enthusiasm for learning, with the understanding that continued learning is important to living in the modern world, which encourages every student to reach the highest possible academic standards. A wide range of teaching and learning strategies are used dependent upon the age and stage of learning of the student. Information technology is integrated into the curriculum and is used to support and extend learning.



## THE PASTORAL SYSTEM

Every effort is made to ensure that our students are happy and successful. Each student is a member of a tutor group. The tutor provides care and support and watches over the progress of each student. The work of tutors is co-ordinated by Year Team Leaders, who aim to know the students in their year groups well, monitor the academic and social development of each student, and keep in close contact with parents.

Form Tutors are the people with whom the students are in contact each day and to whom they relate in the first instance. Students have some time set aside each day in which they can develop relationships within the form groups – this is part of school life which we regard as being very important. Each year group has its own Year Council which helps to make decisions about school life. Representatives from each Year Council also meet to form a whole School Council.

Trained ‘mentors’ operate a system of support for students in Years 8-11. In addition, there is a ‘buddy’ system whereby students in Year 10 work directly with students in Year 7, easing the transition for Year 7 students from the school they have attended.

*“The provision for pupils personal development is a strength of The Grange. A Team of staff have been trained to deliver personal, social and health across the school.”*

*(Ofsted 2021)*

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

All students are expected to wear school uniform and they are encouraged to take pride in their appearance and in the good reputation of the school.

## OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

We offer many and varied extra-curricular activities in which students can participate, including sport, music and drama.

Visits to places of interest such as museums, theatres, industries and art galleries take place regularly and are an integral part of the curriculum delivery. *We also organise residential educational visits both in this country and abroad.*

*“Every effort is made to ensure that our students are happy and successful.”*



# THE CURRICULUM

Our curriculum aims to provide a broad, balanced and relevant education for each individual student.

## KEY STAGE 3 (YEARS 7, 8 AND 9)

All students study a wide range of subjects designed to set a good foundation for later progress. The subjects studied by our students are:

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| ■ Art                 | ■ Mathematics  |
| ■ Design & Technology | ■ Modern Foreign Languages (French, Spanish or Urdu)         |
| ■ Drama               | ■ Music  |
| ■ English             | ■ Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE) |
| ■ Enterprise          | ■ Physical Education   |
| ■ Geography           | ■ Religious Studies  |
| ■ History             | ■ Science  |
| ■ ICT                 |  |

In order to benefit transition in Year 7 we endeavour to keep the number of teachers that our Year 7 students see to a minimum, but at the same time understand that they will be required to be taught by specialist teachers.

At the heart of our Key Stage 3 Curriculum is the belief that our students benefit from developing independent, enquiring minds. We benefit from becoming independent learners, understanding what we need to do when we do not know the answer.

During Year 9, students make choices about the subjects they wish to study at Key Stage 4. To assist in making their choice we give them a great deal of guidance, including a Year 9 Conference, Key Stage 4 Booklet (outlining the choices and courses that they can choose), Key Stage 4 Evening (showcasing option choices), and a Parents' Consultation Evening.

## KEY STAGE 4 (YEARS 10 AND 11)

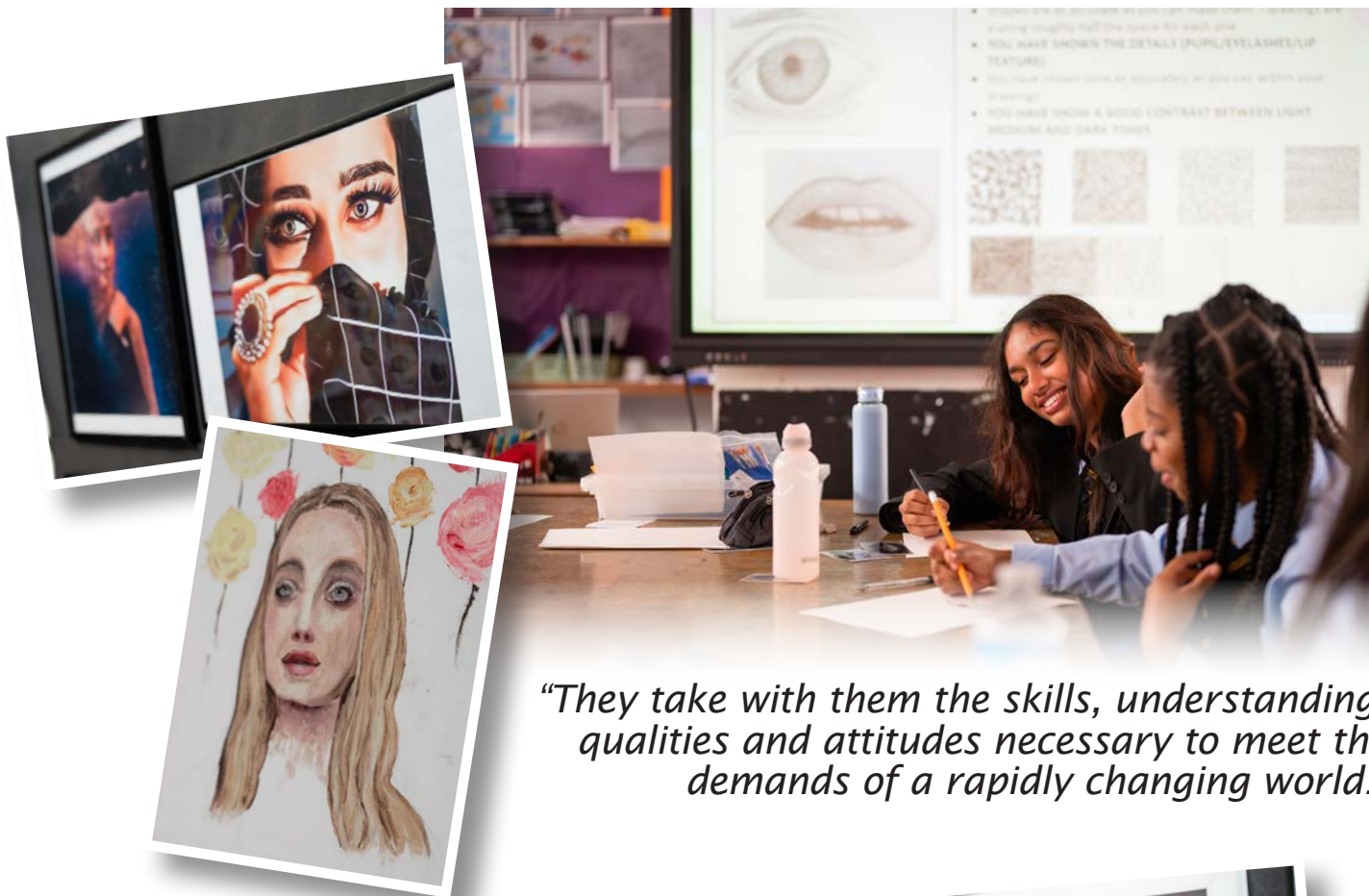
At Key Stage 4 we aim to provide a curriculum that is flexible to the needs of our students. At the same time we need to be aware that all students are required to study courses in the following subjects:

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| ■ English Language   | ■ Physical Studies    |
| ■ English Literature   | ■ Religious Education |
| ■ Mathematics  | ■ Science             |
| ■ Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE) |                       |

Students also study additional GCSE subjects of their choice from the following list:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| ■ Art and Design GCSE                    | ■ ICT BTEC  |
| ■ Business Studies GCSE                  | ■ Modern Foreign Languages GCSE (French, Spanish or Urdu) |
| ■ Construction BTEC                      | ■ Music GCSE  |
| ■ Computing GCSE                         | ■ Physical Education GCSE                                 |
| ■ Drama GCSE                             | ■ Product Design GCSE                                     |
| ■ Enterprise BTEC                        | ■ Religious Studies GCSE                                  |
| ■ Geography GCSE                         | ■ Sport BTEC  |
| ■ Graphic Design GCSE                    | ■ Travel and Tourism BTEC                                 |
| ■ Food Preparation & Nutrition GCSE      |   |
| ■ Health and Social Care BTEC Tech Award |   |
| ■ History GCSE                           |   |





*"They take with them the skills, understanding, qualities and attitudes necessary to meet the demands of a rapidly changing world."*

## SIXTH FORM (YEARS 12 AND 13)

Every year many of our students choose to apply to continue with their education at The Grange School and we aim to offer a wide spectrum of courses.

### ADVANCED LEVEL - LEVEL 3

- Applied Science
- Art
- Business A-Level and BTEC
- Criminology
- Drama & Theatre Studies
- English Literature
- Film Studies
- Food and Nutrition
- Geography
- Health and Social Care BTEC National
- History
- Information Technology
- Psychology
- Religious Studies
- Sociology
- Sport Studies
- Travel and Tourism BTEC



### LEVEL 2

One year courses in English and Mathematics are offered to students that did not achieve a grade 4 or above at GCSE.

In addition, each Sixth Form student will follow courses in Enrichment Studies. At the end of their Sixth Form courses, students progress into Further or Higher Education or employment. They take with them the skills, understanding, qualities and attitudes necessary to meet the demands of a rapidly changing world.

*A separate prospectus is available for the Sixth Form.*

## WORK EXPERIENCE

At The Grange School, we believe that work experience is a very important part of the curriculum. Currently our Year 10 students undertake two weeks of work experience in the Spring Term. There is a wide offering of placements which include working in shops, offices, nurseries and local industries.

In the Sixth Form, students will undertake a one week work experience placement at the end of Year 12. There is also the opportunity to complete a Careers based Business project.

We believe that these opportunities provide valuable, real-life experiences for our students which enhance their key employability skills.

## PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

Preparation for employment is an integral part of everything we do at The Grange School. While qualifications remain very important they are by no means a sole consideration and focus. In an ever changing, fast paced world, we recognise that employability and work-readiness has become increasingly significant for employers.

In order to nurture our students and prepare them for their journey beyond school, we have created a Careers Education Programme which is integrated within our curriculum and uses the Gatsby Benchmarks as a guiding framework. More detailed information is available on our school website.

Our Careers Fair every January is a highlight for our students with over forty employers, education and training providers in attendance. In addition, we welcome guest speakers into school to offer insight and inspiration and regularly signpost a comprehensive round-up of careers focussed opportunities offered outside of school.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education follows a broad syllabus and students learn about the major religions and develop an understanding of different beliefs and cultural backgrounds. There is a collective act of worship every day within the school, which plays an important part in the moral and spiritual life of the school. The wishes of parents regarding the withdrawal from religious studies or collective worship will be respected.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Sport is a prominent feature of school life. Students take part in various activities including athletics,

badminton, basketball, cricket, cross-country, hockey, netball, rounders, rugby league, soccer, tennis, trampolining, gymnastics and dance.

All students are required to take part in Physical Education lessons, unless they are excused on medical grounds. Parents are requested to write a letter to the school explaining the circumstances if their child is unable to take part in a lesson for a medical reason.

## EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS

The extra curricular programme is both successful and well developed. Clubs are run in the following activities:

- Art Club
- Athletics (boys and girls)
- Badminton (boys and girls)
- Basketball (boys)
- Biology, Chemistry and Physics Clubs
- Board Games/Chess Club
- Boys and Girls Active Club
- Brainiac Club
- Computer Club
- Creative Writing Club
- Cricket (boys)
- Cross Country
- Dance (boys and girls)
- Duke of Edinburgh
- Football (boys and girls)
- French and Spanish Film Club
- Jewellery Club
- LGBTQ Support Group
- Multi-gym (boys and girls)
- Netball (girls)
- Rounders (girls)
- Rugby (boys and girls)
- STEMNET
- Study Support (homework club)
- Tennis (boys and girls)
- Vocal Music Club
- Young Carers Group

Our clubs are run by staff or student volunteers and as such may be subject to change with some clubs being removed or additional clubs being added to our broad offering.

*All these clubs are open to all students. Football, cricket, basketball, badminton, rounders, athletics and netball teams compete regularly, with some considerable success, in league and cup fixtures.*

In addition to these after school clubs, inter-form competitions are run during lunchtimes, allowing students in each year to compete against other form groups at a variety of activities. Lunchtime year clubs are also organised, allowing those who just wish to enjoy an activity, without having to compete, the opportunity to participate in sport.

## PERSONAL, SOCIAL, HEALTH AND CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION (PSHCE)

Throughout the school, students follow a well-structured programme of personal, social and health education and citizenship. A detailed statement regarding Sex Education is available from the school on request. The school support students' career aspirations with the support the School's Careers Team who provide information, advice and guidance.

## SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

Our Support for Learning Department provides assistance for students who have a special educational need, either academic, physical or social. The school has special provision for students with specific learning difficulties in the form of extra qualified staff who support students both in the classroom and by a limited system of withdrawal. The Department advises other subject areas in the school on the type of work suitable for different levels of ability. The Student Support Manager helps students with specific social needs and liaises with outside agencies.

The Special Educational Needs Policy has, as its main aim, maximum access for students to the National Curriculum, according to the needs of the individual student, which have been identified and assessed. Assessment is initially undertaken through whole-school screening and then, if appropriate, through detailed diagnosis by a specialist teacher or the Educational Psychologist. This will be achieved through the use of a staged school approach, as recommended by the Revised Code of Practice. Access to the full curriculum of the school will be achieved by the differentiation of classwork and the effective use of resources. Individual programmes of work may be necessary in some areas when content, pace, teaching methods and materials will be considered. This is achieved in conjunction with parents and external agencies working in partnership with the school. Monitoring and record keeping is undertaken and managed by a team of Senior Teaching and Learning Assistants under the direction of the Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for Support for Learning. *The full version of the school's Special Educational Needs Policy is available to view on request from the school office.*

## ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE

The school has a comprehensive EAL department which teaches English to the wide variety of students who join us with little or no English. Our experienced team supports students across the curriculum to achieve their potential.

## HOMEWORK

The school believes that homework is an important extension of the work carried out during lessons; it supports the development of independent learning skills and offers parents an opportunity to take part in their children's education. It provides students with an opportunity to reinforce the work studied at school, practise the skills learned and to prepare for future lessons.

Homework is set by the class teacher on a regular basis. Homework tasks are set using an online calendar called Satchel which is accessible by students, parents/carers and staff. Satchel displays the task set and the deadline date.

## ASSESSMENT

A detailed progress report will be sent home 2 or 3 times per year, depending on the year group. Targets and current levels will be included for all subjects. All parents will also be invited to discuss their child's progress once per year at Parent's Evening.





## SAFEGUARDING STUDENTS

The health, safety and well-being of every child are our paramount concern. We listen to our students and take seriously what they tell us. *Our aim is that children will enjoy their time as students in our school.* We want to work in partnership with you to help your child to achieve their full potential and make a positive contribution.

On rare occasions our concern about a child may mean that we have to consult other agencies even before we contact you. The procedures, which we follow, have been laid down by the Buckinghamshire Area Child Protection Committee, and the school has adopted a Child Protection Policy in line with this for the safety of all. If you want to know more about our procedures or the policy, please speak to the Headteacher or the Deputy Headteacher, Safeguarding.

## SCHOOL CONDUCT

It is a stated aim of the school to encourage all students to take responsibility for themselves and develop high standards of self-discipline and social awareness. As a school we believe that it is important to develop an environment that is both well ordered and disciplined.

In order to achieve this, we set shared expectations within which the students gain the security to develop. As they mature, students are given more responsibility for their own development.

In practice, it is the Form Tutors and subject teachers who are, in the first instance, responsible for setting standards by ensuring adherence to the expectations. Senior Staff are involved in supporting these standards and thus all staff endeavour at all times to develop an environment in which high standards of behaviour are expected by all of the students in order to create a well ordered, disciplined environment.



*“As they mature, students are given more responsibility for their own development.”*

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

All students are expected to wear the school uniform as listed below. We expect parents to support the school by ensuring that their child arrives in school wearing the correct full school uniform and with an appropriate bag and equipment.

When this is not adhered to we reserve the right to send students home in order to change into their agreed and expected uniform.

Sixth form students are expected to be dressed suitably for school in smart business clothes to create a positive image of the school. Full details of the dress code for Sixth Form are available on enrolment.

### GIRLS' UNIFORM YEARS 7 - 9:

- Black jacket with Grange School badge
- Pale blue shirt/blouse (from uniform suppliers or specific styles indicated on our school website). Can be short or long sleeved.
- Black V-neck jumper (optional)
- Grange School tie
- Blue check skirt or black trousers
  - Black trousers (Approved style only, from uniform suppliers or specific styles indicated on our school website. No jeans style or skinny style trousers).
  - Blue check skirt (Approved style only, available from Price and Buckland uniform supplier via school website link).
- Plain black tights
- Black shoes – heels no higher than two inches. No canvas shoes, trainers/leisure style shoes or high heels.
- Black or dark blue top coat. No hooded sweat tops.

### GIRLS' UNIFORM YEARS 10 - 11:

- Black jacket with Grange School badge
- White shirt/blouse (from uniform suppliers or specific styles indicated on our school website). Can be short or long sleeved.
- Black V-neck jumper (optional)
- Grange School tie
- Blue check skirt or black trousers
  - Black trousers (Approved style only, from uniform suppliers or specific styles indicated on our school website. No jeans style or skinny style trousers).
  - Blue check skirt (Approved style only, available from Price and Buckland uniform supplier via school website link).
- Plain black tights

*Grange School badge and tie can be purchased from the school office. The expectation is that correct school uniform will be worn at all times.*



- Black shoes – heels no higher than two inches. No canvas shoes, trainers/leisure style shoes or high heels.
- Black or dark blue top coat. No hooded sweat tops.

### ALTERNATIVE UNIFORM YEARS 7 - 11 MUSLIM GIRLS:

*(If not wearing standard Girls' Uniform)*

- Black jacket with Grange School badge
- Navy Shalwar Kameez with gold trim (only available from Price and Buckland uniform supplier via school website link).
- Navy headscarf with Grange School logo (only available from Price and Buckland via school website link).
- Long sleeved pale blue (KS3) or white (KS4) shirt/blouse (from uniform suppliers or specific styles indicated on our school website).
- Grange School tie
- Black trousers (Approved style only, from uniform suppliers or specific styles indicated on our school website. No jeans style or skinny style trousers).
- Plain black socks or plain black tights
- Black shoes – heels no higher than two inches. No canvas shoes, trainers/leisure style shoes or high heels.
- Black or dark blue top coat. No hooded sweat tops.

### BOYS' UNIFORM YEARS 7 - 9:

- Black jacket with Grange School badge
- Pale blue shirt (from uniform suppliers or specific styles indicated on our school website). Can be short or long sleeved.
- Black V-neck jumper (optional)
- Grange School tie
- Black trousers (Approved style only, from uniform suppliers or specific styles indicated on our school website. No jeans style or skinny style trousers).
- Plain black socks.
- Black shoes. No canvas shoes or trainers/leisure style shoes.
- Black or dark blue top coat. No hooded sweat tops.

## BOYS' UNIFORM YEARS 10 - 11:

- Black jacket with Grange School badge
- White shirt (from uniform suppliers or specific styles indicated on our school website). Can be short or long sleeved.
- Black V-neck jumper (optional)
- Grange School tie
- Black trousers (Approved style only, from uniform suppliers or specific styles indicated on our school website. No jeans style or skinny style trousers).
- Plain black socks.
- Black shoes. No canvas shoes or trainers/leisure style shoes.
- Black or dark blue top coat. No hooded sweat tops.

## JEWELLERY, MAKE UP, HAIR:

One pair of small, plain earring studs may be worn and a watch may be worn. No nose studs, oral or facial piercings. If make-up is worn, it should be very discreet, otherwise students will be asked to remove it. No nail varnish other than neutral.

Hair should be neat and tidy and in a style that does not draw undue attention to the student. Hair dyes must be in natural appropriate colours with no two-tone hair. Subtle highlights are acceptable, provided they are in natural colours. No patterns/shaved areas cut into the hair. Hair accessories must be plain black or navy blue.

***If students are not in the correct uniform, parents/carers will be contacted and students either sent home to change or parents asked to bring the correct uniform into school.***

## PE UNIFORM LIST

### COMPULSORY

- White/black or plain white polo shirt with Grange School logo
- Black/white or plain black shorts with Grange School logo OR Black/white skort with Grange School logo
- Plain black football socks
- Appropriate training shoes/boots as required

## OPTIONAL ITEMS:

- ¼ zip tracksuit top with Grange School logo
- Black sweatshirt with Grange School logo
- Black/white rugby shirt
- Black tracksuit bottoms
- Black dance tights
- Black or white base layer for underneath kit in cold weather
- Shin pads
- Gum shield

## ESSENTIAL EQUIPMENT FOR LESSONS:

For most lessons students will need:

- pencils
- coloured pencils
- pens
- green pen
- an eraser
- a pair of scissors
- a compass
- glue
- small notebook/diary
- reading book
- the relevant subject exercise books
- scientific calculator
- ruler
- protractor

## IN ADDITION THE FOLLOWING ARE VERY USEFUL:

- small English dictionary
- atlas
- language dictionary (French, Spanish, Urdu)

*Most of these items can be purchased from the Library.*





## SCHOOL ORGANISATION


### SCHOOL DAY

The school day runs from 8:30am-3:00pm but students are expected to arrive at school by 8:25am in order for their attendance to be registered at 8:30am. There are five lessons each day, plus additional time on assemblies, Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) time and registration. We operate two different timetables during the day to make lunch and break time logistics more manageable. The first is for Year 8, 10, 12 and 13 and the second for Year 7, 9 and 11.

### ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

It is very important that students should attend school regularly and arrive on time, for time missed from school may have serious educational consequences. If, for any reason, students are unable to attend school, we must have a phone call to the Attendance Officer on every day of absence, followed by a letter on their return to school. If we do not receive reason for absence, a text message will be sent out between 10.00am and 10.50am chasing the reason for absence. If a student is due to attend a funeral, please let us know in advance in writing to ensure that we do not send text messages chasing absence. In all instances of absence, please inform us by 9.30am.

On matters of attendance and punctuality, the Form Tutors and Year Team Leaders work in close liaison with the school's Attendance Officers, Deputy Headteacher, Stapleton House and the Support for Learning Department to ensure that students receive full benefit from their years of full-time education. There is a clear directive from the Department for Education that parents/carers are not permitted to take children on holiday during term time (Circular 10/99). Only requests based on compassionate grounds will be considered for authorisation by the school's Head teacher. In such circumstances, an application should be made on a form obtained from the Attendance Officer or on our school website.



*"We aim to celebrate and recognise our students' successes and focus upon rewarding our students' achievements."*



## CHARGING POLICY

Under the terms of the 1988 Education Reform Act, which contains a section on charging for school activities, only the cost of board and lodging for a residential trip can be made an obligatory charge to parents. The other costs for all trips/visits, including travel, admission tickets to places of interest etc. can be met by parents through voluntary contributions. However, there is no obligation to make any contribution and students at The Grange School will not be treated differently, according to whether or not their parents have made any voluntary contribution.

## SCHOOL MEALS

All Year 7-11 students must stay on the school site, meals are available in the Dining Hall or students can eat a packed lunch provided by home and consumed in the dining hall or on one of the many picnic benches around the school site.

## MEDICAL CARE

If a child becomes ill or is injured in any way he/she is taken to the First Aid Officer in the Medical Room. It is likely that the problem can be dealt with in school, but if not, the parents will be contacted and, if necessary, arrangements will be made for the child to receive medical help, including treatment at hospital. Please contact the First Aid Officer if essential medication needs to be used in school.

## REWARDS AND SANCTIONS

The school takes pride in the high standard of behaviour of its students. There is a system of rewards for good work and sustained effort and there is a clear set of expectations about codes of conduct. We aim to celebrate and recognise our students' successes and focus upon rewarding our students' achievements. However there are times when we must address inappropriate behaviour. We use a range of sanctions, which are used if students behave in an inappropriate manner, which may involve exclusions.

Our Home/School Agreement emphasises the close working relationship between home and school. *It is expected that parents, students and the school sign the agreement at the beginning of each academic year.*

## DETENTION

There are times when detention is used as an appropriate sanction. From 1 September 1998 schools have clear legal authority to detain students on disciplinary grounds after the end of the school session, without the consent of the parent.

## MOBILE PHONES

We recognise that mobile phones are now an integral part of our culture and can be of considerable value, particularly in relation to personal safety. However, balanced with this is the need to safeguard children and staff from cyber bullying, inappropriate use of the Internet and telecommunications, and the misuse of social media such as Twitter, Facebook, Snapchat and Instagram.

The school recognises that parents/carers feel the need for their children to have access to a mobile phone for communication home. This helps with safeguarding and child protection especially in the long dark winter months. We support this wholeheartedly. Students are allowed to bring mobile phones to and from school to ensure their personal safety, but they will need to be turned off between 8.30am and 3.00pm. If a parent/carer needs to contact a student or a student to contact their parent/carer, this can be done through the school reception or through the Year Team Leader.

## SCHOOL FACILITIES

The Grange School is a well-equipped co-educational community school which provides for the education of boys and girls aged from 11-19 years. The main buildings were opened in 1954. Additional buildings have been added since, including a purpose built Technology Block which was opened in September 1999 and a new teaching block which opened in April 2004. Two new Science rooms were also opened in 2005 with newly refurbished areas in English, Food Technology, Music, PE and ICT being developed since 2005. The school now has four new Modern Foreign Language classrooms which were opened in 2010.



During the course of 2012/13 the school worked closely with Buckinghamshire County Council to remodel and refurbish parts of the school as part of a £2 million capital project. We have been able to build a new music centre, multi-gym, and school reception, as well as remodel teaching spaces within Mathematics and Humanities. There is also improved access for all students with the building of a new staircase and a lift to first floor classrooms that eases the pressure on students moving around the school.

The next phase of the project during 2014 was the refurbishment of five science labs; redecoration and improved lighting along a main corridor in the school; and the development of covered walkways and improved social areas for our students. Our new Sixth Form Study Centre was opened in Easter 2022/23 and we are pleased to confirm our canteen extension will be complete for January 2024.

## CLASSROOMS AND SPECIALISED TEACHING AREAS

Every subject has specialist accommodation and access to excellent computer hardware and software. There are fully equipped laboratories and workshops for those subjects demanding specialist equipment, including ten Science laboratories, a technology workshop block, two technology rooms, a textiles room, four art rooms, two drama studios and a music centre with eight additional, individual practice rooms and a recording studio. All rooms are well-equipped for all students. We also have a large sports hall, a gym, and a fully equipped multi-gym which has recently been refurbished. For Sixth Form students, there is a separate recreational common room, vocational teaching areas and a private study area.

## THE SPORTS HALL

The Sports Hall which dates back forty years has recently required significant improvement and has had a new roof installed.

## THE SCHOOL LIBRARY

The Grange School is fortunate to have a library which is well stocked and has the benefit of a full-time librarian. All students are automatically members of the School Library and E-Library and can borrow books on a regular basis. The library is also equipped for private study and, in addition has a reference section, including Careers. Computers provide access to on-line reference material and networked software. The library is available at lunchtime and at the end of the school day for any student who wishes to complete their own work.

## INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

We have a large estate of desktop and laptop computers across the school, currently running Windows 10/11 and Microsoft. Students are assigned **Microsoft 365** and **Google Apps for Education** accounts to support them in their studies, both at school and at home. Students are able to install Microsoft 365 apps free on personal computers/devices at home while attending The Grange School.

Internet access is filtered and actively monitored as part of our wider Safeguarding commitments.



## BUS ROUTES TO THE GRANGE

Most of our students live within walking distance of the school, but for those who do not, there are local bus routes which serve the school.

## ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ADMISSION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The parents of students with disabilities apply to join The Grange School in the same way as the parents of any students. Parents and students are welcome and encouraged to visit the school prior to making an application.

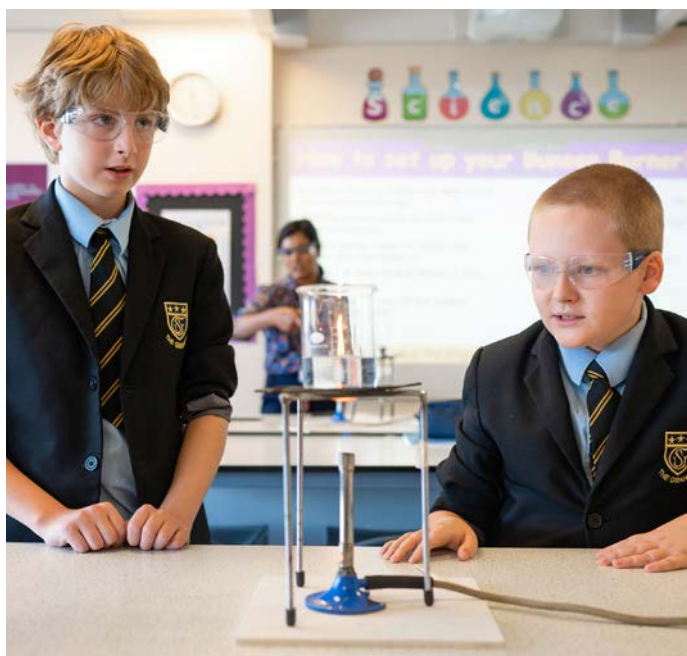
If an application is made on behalf of a student with disabilities it may be necessary to arrange for a risk assessment to be made by the County Local Authority to ensure that a place at The Grange School is appropriate for the student and the school.

We make every effort to ensure that students with disabilities can access as much as possible of both the curriculum and the social life of the school by:

- Careful selection of a tutor group to provide the best pastoral and peer support
- Careful selection of teaching groups and their rooms to ensure access
- Negotiated withdrawal from inappropriate activities with alternative provision made.

The school has good facilities for wheelchairs with ramps to all outside entrances and lift access to all but four classrooms. Within Food Studies we have a work unit and oven suitable for wheelchair users and two new Science laboratories that have adjustable work stations. Acoustic ceilings have been fitted to many classrooms to improve conditions for those with hearing disabilities. The school has disabled toilet facilities and a changing room.

*The Governing Body reviews the Special Educational Needs Policy annually and copies of the policy are available on the school's website or by request from the school's administration office.*



*“We make every effort to ensure that students with disabilities can access as much as possible of both the curriculum and the social life of the school.”*

## OTHER INFORMATION

### ACCESS TO INFORMATION

If parents require access to further documentation, including details about the National Curriculum, they should contact the school.

### COMPLAINTS

In the event of any complaint about the school, parents should contact the Headteacher immediately, either by phoning 01296 390900 or arranging a visit to the school. The next step, if necessary or if the complaint is about the Headteacher, is to write to the Chair of Governors. The school has an agreed **Complaints and Resolutions Policy** which can be viewed on our school website at [www.grange.bucks.sch.uk/School-Policies](http://www.grange.bucks.sch.uk/School-Policies)

### GRANTS

Parents who wish to apply for free school meals should contact the School Office. If parents have difficulty in providing for their child's essential school needs, e.g. uniform or equipment they should contact the Headteacher.

### FURTHER ENQUIRIES

Any further enquiries parents wish to make about their children's education should be made to the school.

### HAVING CHOSEN THE GRANGE SCHOOL

In July parents are invited to a meeting where the school philosophy, its expectations, code of conduct and routines are explained. This provides the opportunity for parents to meet the Form Tutor, to ask any further questions and see the school again.

### INTRODUCING STUDENTS TO THE SCHOOL

Before new students start in September they are invited to spend two days at The Grange School in July. During this time they meet some of their new teachers and take part in some lessons as well as enterprise and team building exercises.

Our new students will also have Year 10 students acting as 'buddies'. The buddies will be there to assist our new students in making sure they know their way around, what is, a large school. They will be there to answer questions and provide knowledge about the expectations within the school. Our new students have found this very beneficial in their early days at The Grange School.

Senior members of staff and other teachers also visit the feeder schools, where they meet prospective students. Due to our developed links with our local schools, many students will already be familiar with The Grange School before they actually join us.



*"Due to our developed links with our local schools, many students will already be familiar with The Grange School before they actually join us."*

## DESTINATION OF YEAR 11 STUDENTS

There were 231 students aged 15 at the start of the 2021/22 school year of whom in September 2022:

- (i) 231 = 89.9% continued in full time education
- (ii) 9 = 3.8% in apprenticeships
- (iii) 1 = 0.4% in full-time employment with study
- (iv) 0 = 0% working towards participation with an agreed start date
- (v) 3 = 1.27% not ready for work or learning
- (vi) 0 = 0% seeking employment, education or training

10 students (4.23%) were unable to be contacted.

1 student (0.4%) refused to disclose.

## ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS

If the school receives more applications than it has places available, the Local Authority uses admission rules to decide, in a fair and consistent way, which children we should offer the places to.

For each school that you list the Local Authority will work out, from the information in your application, which rule they will consider your child under.

The Grange school has a 240 student entry in year 7. It is split into 8 form groups with 30 students in each. Each form group is allocated a form tutor and the year group is managed by two heads of year.

Our admissions policy can be found on our school website [www.grange.bucks.sch.uk/Admissions](http://www.grange.bucks.sch.uk/Admissions)







## SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2024/25

	STARTS MORNING OF:	FINISHES AFTERNOON OF:
<b>AUTUMN TERM 2024</b>	Wednesday 4 September 2024 Monday 4 November 2024	Friday 25 October 2024 Friday 20 December 2024
<b>SPRING TERM 2025</b>	Friday 6 January 2025 Monday 24 February 2025	Friday 14 February 2025 Friday 4 April 2025
<b>SUMMER TERM 2025</b>	Tuesday 22 April 2025 Monday 2 June 2025	Friday 23 May 2025 Wednesday 23 July 2025
<b>IN-SERVICE TRAINING DAYS FOR TEACHERS (NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS):</b>	Tuesday 3 September 2024 Other inset days to be confirmed	
<b>EASTER:</b>	Friday 18 April to Monday 21 April 2025	
<b>EARLY MAY BANK HOLIDAY:</b>	Monday 5 May 2025	
<b>SPRING BANK HOLIDAY:</b>	Monday 26 May 2025	





## VISION

The Grange is more than just a school. We strive to be considered a great school by all who come here and the community we serve. We are the advocates and enablers for young people to overcome the barriers of selection and empower them with the opportunity to fulfil their academic potential, creative talents, and sporting excellence and interest.

As a non-selective upper school and member of a local Cooperative Trust, the Aylesbury Learning Partnership of Schools, we are committed to The United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child and are dedicated to:

- Encouraging different forms of education: vocational and general; making them available and accessible to all students;
- Developing our students' personality, talents and mental and physical abilities to their fullest potential;
- Respecting our students' parents for their own cultural identity, language and values, which sit alongside the British values underpinning the society in which our students live.
- Preparing our students to live responsibly within a free society, in the spirit of understanding, peace, respect, equality for all, and friendship among all peoples, ethnic, national and religious groups;
- Taking measures to encourage regular attendance at school and complete programmes of study;
- Developing our students understanding and respect of the environment and community;
- Providing, where reasonable, assistance in cases of need;
- Providing our students with impartial advice and guidance in relation to education, employment and training.

*"The school community will be encouraged to engage and learn outside the confines of the school gate. Our students will go out into the community, looking smart, and being ambassadors for what the school believes in."*

## Our Mission

Our mission, as a socially, economically and culturally diverse school at the heart of Aylesbury, is to inspire a flourishing school community, with our wide-ranging and academically challenging and inspiring curriculum. We can succeed within an ethos of mutual respect and working together to create a culture of self-worth that enables our students to achieve their best.

## Our Aims

As a school we aim to:

- Engage our students in our passion for learning that prepares them for a fully functioning and fulfilling life;
- Create highly developed relationships across the school and within our local community;
- Enable all students to acquire valuable knowledge that enriches their life;
- Promote a 'can do' attitude that enables our students to achieve success and fulfil their future aspirations;
- Provide our students with a safe, healthy, enjoyable environment where they feel secure in their learning.

## Our Intents

In fulfilling our school aims we have five strategic intents making **WE CAN** which defines the essence of our school.



**W** – Well ordered, safe environment

**E** – Enriching curriculum

**C** – Community at the heart of the school

**A** – (Academic) Achievement for all

**N** – New horizons (linked to pathways, careers etc.)

## Our Values

Our key values in achieving this are:



## HOW TO FIND US ...



## CONTACT DETAILS

The Grange School, Wendover Way  
Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP21 7NH  
Telephone: 01296 390900  
Email: [office@grange.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:office@grange.bucks.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mr. V. Murray

