



THE  
GRANGE  
ACADEMY

ASPIRE FOR EXCELLENCE

# TRANSITION BOOKLET

A Student's Guide  
2023 - 24



[THEGRANGEACADEMY.CO.UK](https://www.thegrangeacademy.co.uk)



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# CONTENTS:

Within this guide we aim to give you all of the information you need to make a settled start in the Secondary phase of learning at The Grange Academy.

- 2 A Student's Guide for September 2023
- 3 Principal's Introduction
- 4 School Uniform
- 5 PE Kit
- 7 Attendance, Punctuality & Rewards
- 8 The Year Team
- 9 School Timings & Curriculum
- 10 Homework & Revision
- 12 Extra-Curricular Activities
- 13 Student Leadership
- 14 Dining Arrangements
- 15 Results
- 16 Stretch and Challenge
- 17 Parent & Challenge Partners Feedback
- 18 The Journey Ahead



# A STUDENT'S GUIDE FOR SEPTEMBER 2023

Included in this booklet is information to help you get ready for starting at The Grange Academy in September. After reading this booklet, you may wish to make a note of any questions you would like to ask when you attend our Induction Days on Monday 3rd - Wednesday 5th July.

Before then, we will be speaking to your primary school teachers, visiting you at school and offering a range of opportunities for you to get to know more about our fantastic school.

We know that you may be feeling nervous about starting in Year 7. This is completely normal. The best way to prepare yourself, is to make sure you read through all of the information provided, speak to friends and family members who attend The Grange Academy and ask any questions that you have.

We are really looking forward to meeting you again and hope that you will enjoy this preview of daily life at The Grange Academy.



I am so impressed at how my son has settled in. He smiles in the morning and is keen to get to school. Thankyou to all staff helping and teaching Year 7s.

**Year 7 Parent**

# PRINCIPAL'S INTRODUCTION

**Mr R.Hicks**



Dear Student,

A warm welcome to The Grange Academy. I hope you will find this booklet useful and it gives you all the information you need to ensure your transition from primary to secondary school is excellent. At The Grange Academy we will give you the opportunity to develop a full range of skills and knowledge that you will need to help you succeed in later life, whatever pathway you choose to take.

You will have many opportunities to develop your talents in a wide range of subject routes and activities. Subject routes such as the highly academic English Baccalaureate route and a wide range of other subjects such as physical education, music, photography and animal care. You might also have the opportunity to undertake activities like football, netball, music tuition, choir and science club and have the opportunity to travel to places such as Paris, Iceland and have a go at skiing in France.

I expect you to work very hard in order to achieve your potential and we expect students to follow our behaviour commitments. We want you to be Respectful, demonstrate Excellence, Persevere and be Safe (REPS). If you work hard and commit to your learning you will achieve the best possible examination results. These results will help you move on to the next stage of your learning.

All of your teachers will go above and beyond to support you in fulfilling your potential. We will have high expectations and aspirations for you and we will support and guide you every step of the way. I want you to pay particular attention to our ASPIRE values and think about how you will meet each one of these every single day as you begin your journey at The Grange Academy. I hope you will develop into well-rounded, respectful and confident young adults with the ability to work both independently and with other people.

I wish you every success.

Mr R.Hicks  
Principal

# SCHOOL UNIFORM



- Black blazer with blue trim and school badge
- Black trousers or blue/black tartan skirt
- White shirt
- School tie
- Black V-neck Jumper (optional)
- Plain, black, polishable shoes (no boots/trainers)
- Black socks with trousers or white knee high socks/navy tights with skirt



Students must also attend school with a sensible hair style, which is not extreme or which includes unnatural bright colouring or outrageous hair patterns. Hair bands if worn, must be simple and plain.

Jewellery is not allowed with the exception of a wrist watch. No other jewellery or piercings are allowed.

Students should be well presented at all times, with shirts tucked in to their trousers and skirts.

No badges are to be worn other than those issued by the school, or one charity badge.

## Acceptable shoes



## Not acceptable shoes



# PE KIT

All students must have the PE socks and then a top and bottom from the selection below. Students do not have to purchase all of the items below, but can choose to do so. Students are expected to bring appropriate footwear to all PE lessons to enable them to engage fully with learning. Students require a clean pair of trainers suitable for indoor and outdoor lessons.

At times during the year, students will undertake PE outside. If students have studded boots suitable for use on grass or our 3G surface, then these are encouraged for outdoor PE lessons as an alternative to trainers.

Students have the option to wear base layers underneath their PE kit, particularly during cold weather. We request that students choose navy blue or black garments that complement our school uniform.

The safety of our students is paramount when taking part in PE, so we would encourage you to purchase a pair of shin pads and a suitable mouthguard for use in Football, Rugby, and Hockey.



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Any issues or concerns I've raised have been quickly resolved and responded to the transition process had been seamless and this has fantastic in helping my child settle

**Year 7 Parent**

Transition to has been fantastic, summer school in particular was very beneficial. Staff communication to me as a parent has been absolutely fantastic and has allowed me to support my child with the transition at home too. My child hated primary school and was terrified of secondary school, by the end of September they were loving school and gaining confidence!

**Year 7 Parent**

# ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

We expect you to maintain an attendance record of 97% or higher at school. This will ensure you are in the best position to fulfil your potential. If, however, you are ill or unable to attend, or you will be late to school for any reason, then your parent/carer **must** telephone the school by 9.00am. You **must** provide a note written by your parent/carer explaining why you were absent on the first morning of your return to school.

In order that you do not fall behind others in your class, you will be expected to catch up on work you have missed during your absence.

## REWARDS

At The Grange Academy you will be rewarded in a range of different ways for following our core values and behaviour code, working hard and attending regularly.

### Postcards, Letters & Certificates

Your teachers and support staff will give out postcards, letters and certificates based on your work and effort in lessons and your conduct and involvement around our school.

If staff see you doing something positive around school and demonstrating our school values, then they can give you a raffle ticket. There will be weekly draws with prizes for the winners.

### Raffle Tickets

### Class of The Week

Each week your class teachers will nominate a 'Class of The Week'. The winning class will be celebrated during either assemblies, form time or class time.

Every class teacher has a 'Wonder Wall' in their classroom. Each week, your teacher will nominate a student from each year group that they teach to appear on the 'Wonder Wall'.

### Wonder Wall



# THE YEAR TEAM

As part of the pastoral support that you will be offered at The Grange, there are a team of staff who will work with you to help make your transition as easy as possible and to support you in making progress throughout your time with us.

## **Progress Tutor**

Your first point of contact and the person you will register with every morning. Your progress tutor will get to know you really well and you will get to know them.

## **Assistant Progress Leader**

Mrs Short is a non-teaching member of the year team, meaning that she will be available to support you throughout the day.

## **Progress Leader**

Mrs Cullen will oversee the year group and work closely with your Year 6 teachers and primary school to ensure we have as much information as possible to help us support you from day one. You will meet Mrs Cullen or Mr Beavon when they visit your primary school.



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# SCHOOL TIMINGS

Form	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Break	Lesson 3	Lesson 4	Lunch	Lesson 5
8.30-8.50	8.50-9.50	9.50-10.50	10.50-11.05	11.05-12.05	12.05-1.05	1.05-1.35	1.35-2.35

## CURRICULUM

We pride ourselves on offering a broad and balanced curriculum that will allow you to develop skills across a range of subjects. Students will study a three year KS3 curriculum designed to offer breadth and depth, developing skills and knowledge to a high standard before they begin their KS4 studies. Within KS3 students study:

English	Maths	Science
History	Geography	French or Spanish
Music	Drama	Computing
DT & Art	Physical Education	Religious Studies

SMSC, Careers and Modern British Values are embedded throughout our curriculum, with additional form times, drop down mornings and focus weeks ensuring students have strong cultural understanding.



# HOMWORK & REVISION

Homework is a vital part of school life. It is used to compliment the work you complete in your lessons and provide you with opportunities to work independently. Each subject will provide homework in line with the school homework policy which will be shared with students on Microsoft Teams.

Microsoft Teams is a versatile online platform that allows for homework to be set in a variety of ways. Students will also have access to previous in-school learning through the platform which will help with home learning and revision.

Revision is extremely important. As you will undertake assessments throughout each year it is essential that you are in the habit of regular revision. It is recommended that you take a "little and often" approach, looking at one or two subjects each night for around 30-40 minutes.

You can read our 'Setting up Microsoft Teams - Guide for Students' on our Website: [https://www.thegrangeacademy.co.uk/downloads/coronavirus\\_guidance/remote\\_learning/secondary/setting\\_up\\_microsoft\\_teams\\_-\\_student\\_guide.pdf](https://www.thegrangeacademy.co.uk/downloads/coronavirus_guidance/remote_learning/secondary/setting_up_microsoft_teams_-_student_guide.pdf)



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We are so pleased with how our daughter has settled into Year 7. We are so very proud of how hard she is working and how quickly she has settled in. She is really enjoying school and doing so well.. there's nothing more we could ask for! Thank you for all the support you and the staff have put into place, especially with all of the extra work and upheaval you're having to deal with at the moment... it's really appreciated.

**Year 7 Parent**

'My children are very happy and I feel the teachers are very committed to making the school a safe, fun and interesting place to be. I feel they genuinely care about the students and are communicative and supportive to the parents. I have no complaints at all.'

**Year 7 Parent**

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# EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

A full range of opportunities are available to you after school and at lunch times. You may be interested in the following:

- Team and Individual Sports
- Dance and Drama Productions
- Singing in the choir
- Our school bands
- Science Club
- Foreign Visits and Holidays
- Debating Club
- Duke of Edinburgh
- Student Leadership Teams
- Prefect Team

Each year we look to develop our extra-curricular offer by asking our students what they would like to see on our Enrichment Timetable. If you have an idea for an extra-curricular club and we are able to offer it, then we will do. We want to build a programme that allows our students to pursue their hobbies and interests.

As well as after-school activities, you will take part in Enrichment Days, giving you the opportunity to try out new activities and develop new interests and hobbies.



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# STUDENT LEADERSHIP

## Student Leadership Team Year 7 - Year 10

Throughout your time at The Grange Academy, you will have the opportunity to develop your leadership skills by joining one of our Student Leadership Team groups. In Year 7 - Year 10, there are 4 different groups you can join, with opportunities to run your own events, present your ideas to staff and act as ambassadors for other students within the school. Appointment of new members will take place each year in October.



## Prefects Year 11

Each year, we assemble a team of Prefects in school: Year 11 students who are appointed as role-models because they represent everything we ask for in a Grange student.

They are hardworking, motivated and keen to ensure everyone enjoys our school as much as they do. If you are unsure of something or need assistance ask anyone with a prefect badge and they will help you. Maybe when you are in Year 11 you could be a prefect!

HEAD PREFECTS			
MATTHEW JACKSON HEAD PREFECT			GABRIELA REPPEL HEAD PREFECT
DANIEL JONES DEPUTY HEAD PREFECT			KATIE CADMAN DEPUTY HEAD PREFECT

Y11 PREFECT TEAM 2021 - 22					
Jolene		Faye		Kimberley	
Aimee		Jennifer		Sophia	
Leahrose		Robert		Charley	

# DINING ARRANGEMENTS

The school is open in the morning for breakfast from 8.00am to 8.30am.

Our students remain on the school premises during break time and lunch time.

At break time, students are able to purchase a variety of items such as toast, muffins and bacon/sausage barmes.

There are a wide range of choices that you can have at lunch time:

- **A packed lunch from home**
- **Sandwiches, wraps and baguettes**
- **Pasta pots (hot or cold)**
- **A variety of hot meals with a different offering each day**

We operate a cashless system at The Grange where students preload money onto their accounts through SCOPAY or designated machines. Students then use their finger print or unique code to purchase food.



# RESULTS

Despite the challenging circumstances of recent years, last year's Year 11 students left The Grange Academy with a set of results that were a true reflection of their hard work and ability. These results demonstrated improvements across the school in Core, Ebacc and Foundation subjects and fantastic pass rates in a wide range of subjects.

## Continued Improvements in Core Subjects



There has been an 11% increase in the number of students receive Grade 9 - 4 in English compared to the last exam-based year.

13% more students have gained a Grade 9 - 4 in Maths this year compared to the last exam-based year.



22% more students have gained a Grade 9-5 in Maths this year compared to the last exam-based year.

20% of students received a Grade 9 - 7 in GCSE Physics.

46% of students achieved the highest grades of a Level 2 Distinction or Distinction\* in BTEC Music.

100% of students achieved a Level 2 Pass or above in OCR Sports Studies.

81% of students received a Grade 9 - 4 in GCSE French.

60% of students achieved a Level 2 Merit or Distinction in OCR Child Development

25% of students achieved a Distinction\* in WJEC Catering.



## Excellent Results in Ebacc & Foundation Subjects

## Outstanding Individual Achievements



Jessica achieved a fantastic seven Grade 9s and will be continuing her studies at Cronton College, studying A Levels in Maths, Chemistry & Physics



Harry achieved seven Grade 9-7s or equivalent, including Grade 9 in English Language and Grade 8 in Maths. Harry is continuing his studies at Priestley College.



Faye achieved extremely well in her EBacc suite of subjects, receiving Grade 8s in English, Maths, French and Geography. Faye will be moving on to Priestley College to complete A Levels.



# STRETCH & CHALLENGE

Our results also demonstrate that we know how to stretch and challenge students so that they reach their potential and achieve the best possible outcomes. 2022 saw a significant improvement in the number of students achieving the top grades in both GCSE and vocational qualifications.

Our curriculum is designed to ensure that all students receive challenge which allows them to develop skills of analysis, evaluation and deep thinking, at all points in their school career. Not only does this ensure that students can achieve at the highest level within their GCSEs, it also creates a solid foundation for future studies and employment.



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# PARENTAL FEEDBACK

We received some fantastic feedback from parents during our **Year 7 Settling in Parents' Evening** this year:

**100% of parents/carers said that their child is happy at this school.**

**100% of parents/carers said that their child is well looked after at this school.**

**100% of parents/carers said that their child is taught well at this school.**

**100% of parents/carers said that their child has been well supported with their transition to secondary school.**

Thank you for such a great start to an important time in my child's life. They are settled and really happy to be a part of The Grange Academy.  
**Year 7 Parent**

# OFSTED FEEDBACK

In May 2022, Ofsted completed a full inspection of the school, grading it 'GOOD' in all areas. Here are some of their key comments and findings.

Pupils benefit from a range of extra-curricular activities to further their talents and interests. For example, Year 7 pupils recently enjoyed competing in their first basketball match.

Pupils are proud to be part of this respectful community. They told inspectors that the school community is 'accepting of anyone' and that they can be themselves without fear of prejudice.

Leaders have designed a suitably broad and ambitious curriculum to ensure that children and pupils, irrespective of the challenges they may face, achieve as well as they should. Leaders' timely and precise identification of children and pupils' needs, coupled with knowledgeable support from staff, ensures that all pupils progress.

# THE JOURNEY AHEAD

Hopefully this booklet has helped you to see all the exciting opportunities you have ahead of you as your journey at The Grange Academy begins. Don't worry if you want to know more as there are opportunities before September to have all of your questions answered:

## **Induction Evening – Thursday 29th June, 6:00pm-7:00pm**

The evening will give you and your parents/carers all the information you need about the induction days and what to expect in September.

## **Summer School - Wednesday 30th August - Friday 1st September**

You will have another opportunity to make new friends, get to know different teachers and prepare for your first week at The Grange Academy.

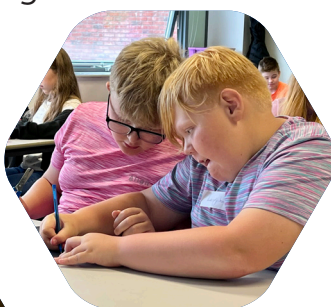
## **Visits to your primary school**

We will be coming to visit you and your year 6 teacher to find out all about you. We will look at your progress, your friendship groups and your likes and dislikes to make sure we put you into a form group and classes where you can make the best possible progress.

## **Induction Days - Monday 3rd - Wednesday 5th July**

You will meet your progress tutor, the rest of your form and have the chance to see what a day at The Grange is all about.

The days will be full of fun activities including a treasure hunt to help you find your way around the building.





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