



# Welcome to The Grange School

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# Head Teacher's Welcome

Thank you for taking an interest in our new school based in Thatcham. I am honoured and privileged to have been appointed as the Head Teacher of a school where every child will be nurtured and supported in order that they can reach their full potential.

We are an inclusive school that celebrate diversity and recognise that every child is different and unique. We pride ourselves on offering a nurturing environment where students feel supported, safe and confident to take risks within their learning in order to grow and flourish. We are committed to treating all members of our community with empathy, understanding and respect.



We will provide an enriching and exciting curriculum for students who have social, emotional and mental health difficulties, which will enable them to access their education successfully and to achieve their goals. We are committed to championing difference, encouraging curiosity and developing creativity with all students in order to foster a lifelong enthusiasm for learning. We will include opportunities for our students to explore and develop their individual passions and interests and to find success in areas of personal strength; this will include academic subjects, sports and learning outside the classroom.

We believe that our school is an inspiring environment that will encourage students to develop enquiring minds, high personal expectations and an understanding and respect for others. We recognise that individual development, including self-esteem and self-respect, are essential for enabling our students to lead happy, successful lives and we aim to ensure that our students further develop into caring, happy, confident and adaptable young people, equipped with good academic skills, and an eagerness to continue developing their academic and social skills into the future.

I look forward to working closely with all our stakeholders and with the wider community as we bring this exciting vision to life.

### **Rebecca Shaw**

Head Teacher

# The Grange School at a Glance

- Smaller class sizes of:
   1 teacher, 1 teaching assistant
   & 4 students
- 25 places, mixed gender
- In-house integrated therapies team
- Key stage 2-3
- 1:1 support available
- Broad and balanced curriculum offer



# Aims and Ethos

The Phoenix values of Honesty, Empathy, Aspiration, Respect and Teamwork underpin everything that we do here at The Grange School. We endeavour to utilise the appropriate innovative practices to ensure that learning is engaging, relevant and inspirational.

The Grange School in Thatcham is an independent, co-educational school which provides day placements for children and young people who experience difficulties associated with social, emotional and mental health development, speech and language development, or who may have been exposed to trauma and/or adverse childhood experiences.

### We aim to:

- Promote a culture where students feel safe, secure, and have a voice
- Support and encourage students to take responsibility for themselves and their actions
- Provide students with appropriate specialist support and interventions
- Provide students with individualised academic and therapeutic learning plans, which focus on development of their Emotional Literacy, Independence, Cognition, Creativity and Expression, and Physical and Sensory skills
- Increase self-esteem, self-regulation, and independence
- Support students in developing positive relationships with others
- Provide students with the independence to prepare them for life once they move on to KS4 or the world of work

- Provide a broad, balanced, and relevant curriculum that meets each student's needs and focuses on Linguistic, Mathematical, Scientific, Technological, Human and Social, Physical, Aesthetic and Creative education
- Know our students' strengths through robust baseline assessments, rigorous progress monitoring and celebrating small steps of development
- Provide students with the skills to keep themselves safe
- Provide all students with a high-quality education regardless of their background, gender, sexuality, religion, or race
- Work in partnership with parents, carers, and other professionals as an effective multidisciplinary team

Our students may also have additional developmental needs, including autism, that impact upon their emotional health and wellbeing and create barriers to learning.

We deliver a personalised curriculum which, where possible, acknowledges the national curriculum and meets the individual needs of our students, whilst also supporting them to meet the outcomes identified in their EHCPs.

Our goal is to provide access to the best academic outcomes possible, as well as preparing our students for the next stage of their education, and adulthood, by equipping them with the skills required to achieve personal success.

The Grange School offers a holistic, therapeutic, and individualised approach to learning that is oriented towards the needs of the student. It is our belief that how we teach is fundamental to the success of our students and we use a range of strategies to enable our students to feel safe enough to learn.

Lessons are carefully planned around the individual learning and developmental needs of our students. Our focus on building positive and trusting relationships and a sense of belonging enables our students to develop the skills and knowledge they need to access the full school curriculum.

At The Grange School, we have forged strong relationships between school staff, parents, carers, social workers, local authorities, and other agencies, in order to ensure that each student is supported in the best way possible. We believe that our students will make the most progress when they feel safe and are enjoying school.

We celebrate all successes, however small, so that students know what they are achieving and are able to recognise their own positive contributions to school life.



# Learning Environment

At The Grange School, we offer a calm and friendly learning environment where students are able to grow in confidence and flourish. Class sizes are small, and all students have access to autism friendly classrooms, attachment and trauma aware staff, and calming spaces where they can unwind and take some time out, if needed.

We offer students a stimulating learning environment through the use of modern teaching methods, on and off-site enrichment activities, and the use of innovative technology and teaching practices.

# Therapeutic Approaches

At The Grange School, we use Therapeutic approaches in order to help students build trusting relationships and feel safe in the school environment. Initial assessments highlight the developmental needs of our students and allow us to build a package that will help them to make progress socially and emotionally, as well as academically. We work closely with parents and carers to help support students to reach their potential.

The Grange School is able to access support, advice, and consultation from the Phoenix Group Integrated Therapies Team, as well as through referrals to CAMHS and local authority support.

Our Integrated Therapies Team is multi-disciplinary and includes clinical psychology, educational psychology, speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, counselling, behaviour support and play and arts therapies.

Additional therapeutic packages can be outsourced and offered to students such as Equine Therapy, Forest School and Family Interventions.











# Curriculum

The Grange School offers students a holistic, broad and balanced curriculum which allows students to grow academically, vocationally, socially, physically, and morally.

When a student starts their learning journey at The Grange School, we assess their academic, developmental and emotional needs. A learning programme will then be designed in order to help them succeed.

Literacy and Numeracy are the main focus of every morning and students are taught in small groups, or 1:1, allowing teachers to target their individual literacy and numeracy needs.

## **Subjects Offered:**

- English
- Maths
- Science
- Humanities
- Outdoor Education
- Art & Textiles

- Citizenship
- ICT
- Physical Education
- Music
- RE / Cultural studies
- Cookery
- PSHE

Main polices are available on our website and all others are available on request.



Part of the Phoenix Learning and Care Group



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