



# 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 pupils 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 pupils who have autism, learning difficulties and social, emotional and mental health needs, 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 pupils in order to foster a lifelong enthusiasm for learning. We will include opportunities for our pupils 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 pupils to develop enquiring minds, high personal expectations and an understanding and respect for others. We recognise that individual development, including self-esteem self-respect, are essential for enabling our pupils to lead happy, successful lives and we aim to ensure that our pupils 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 families, 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 & 4/5 pupils
- Initial 20 primary places, mixed gender
- Initial 20 secondary places, mixed gender for 2023/24
- Primary and secondary setting split across campus to maintain smaller therapeutic environments

- In-house integrated therapies team
- Key stage 2-4
- 1:1 support available
- Broad and balanced curriculum offer
- Seamless transition between primary and secondary phases, proving greater consistency



# 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, inspirational and fun!

The Grange School is an independent, co-educational school which provides day placements for children and young people who have a diagnosis that places them on the autistic spectrum. We equally appreciate that these young people may also experience difficulties associated with social, emotional and mental health development, speech and language development, or may have been exposed to trauma and/or adverse childhood experiences.

### We aim to:

- Promote a culture where pupils feel safe, secure, and have a voice
- Support and encourage pupils to take responsibility for themselves and their actions
- Provide pupils with appropriate specialist support and interventions
- Provide pupils 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 pupils in developing positive relationships with others
- Provide pupils with the independence to move on to KS4 and eventually the world of work

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

Our pupils may also have additional developmental needs 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 pupils, 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 pupils 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 specific needs of the pupil. It is our belief that how we teach is fundamental to the success of our pupils and we use a range of strategies to enable our pupils to feel safe enough to learn.

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

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

We celebrate all successes, however small, so that pupils 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 pupils are able to grow in confidence and flourish. Class sizes are small, and all pupils have access to autism friendly environments, attachment and trauma aware team members and calming spaces where they can unwind and take for themselves, if needed.

We offer pupils 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 pupils build trusting relationships and feel safe and confident in the school environment. Initial assessments highlight the developmental needs of our pupils and allow us to build a package of support that will help them to make progress socially and emotionally, as well as academically. We work closely with parents and carers to help support pupils to reach their potential and shape their aspirations.

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 access to counselling and forensic psychology, educational psychology, speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, and creative arts therapies. Speech and language and creative arts therapies are included within our universal core offer and specialist consultation can be provided from within the Phoenix Group. Additional therapeutic packages can be outsourced and offered to pupils such as Equine Therapy, Forest School and Family Interventions.











# Curriculum

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

When a pupil 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 pupils are taught in small groups, or 1:1 where evidenced as being required, 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.

