

ACCESS
ALL
AREAS

THE ROUGH

Guide to
6th Form at
The Grove



“Life will change.
This isn’t school as you know it.”

Elizabeth Ainscoe

Head of 6th Form



We make a few promises to you when you start 6th Form at the Grove:

We promise to take the time to get to know you as a person and help you in every way that we can. Tell us what you want to study and we will try to build subject blocks around you – not expect you to fit in and conform as other schools or colleges might. When the time comes, we will give you helpful advice on UCAS, Universities, Apprenticeships and Careers. And because we know you and because our staff have years of experience, this advice will actually mean something.

We promise to look after you, knowing that this does not mean treating you like a child but rather offering a guiding hand as you navigate life in the 6th Form. We will support you, not only in your academic studies but also in your other interests, helping you fit both into your life. We will talk to your parents, if you need us to and work together with all of you to help you achieve the things you want. And we will provide you with the space and facilities you need to study or hang

out or play sport or act or do any of the things you want to do.

Finally, whether you are coming to us from Y11 at The Grove or elsewhere, we promise that this can be a fresh start if you want it to be. This is the perfect time for re-invention, if you wish it. We will see you, treat you and respect you as the person you are *now* – not the child you were *then*.

So, those are our promises. And we actually enjoy keeping them. It is a real pleasure to get to know each of our 6th Form students and watch them grow in independence over the 2 years that they are with us. And remember, entry requirements into 6th Form at The Grove are not set in stone. We are flexible and pleased to offer students opportunities that they may not find elsewhere because we know, from experience, that potential sometimes takes time to surface. We love to unearth talent that has previously been hidden.

But enough from me. Read on and find out more from the people who really matter... our students.

WHAT'S INSIDE?

HEADS UP

Head Prefects Katie and Sam give you the lowdown on what the 6th Form is *really* like.

WHAT SHOULD I STUDY?

“Helpful” advice coming out of your ears? Here’s an easy to use guide for picking the subjects that are right for you.

LIVING THE DREAM

A day in the life of a Grove 6th Former.

OUT OF THE CLASSROOM

Thinking outside the box is vital for health, happiness and success. Here are the exciting, fun and UCAS-friendly options on offer at The Grove.

THE GROVE WANTS YOU!

Here’s how to apply.

10 GOOD REASONS

Why 6th Form at The Grove? The top 10 reasons given by our students.

WHAT CAN I STUDY?

A list of subject options and the info you want on the combination (*flexibility* we’re famous for).

GAME ON

So, you’re into sport? Funny that – so are we. Find out just how much.

WORK OF ART

No one likes a *show off*. Apart from us. Why else would our Performing Arts facilities be second to none?



Heads Up.

Head Prefects Katie and Sam give you the low down on what the 6th Form is really like.

What are the main differences between being in the 6th Form and life lower down the school?

Katie: Much more freedom and independence. Being trusted with lots of responsibilities. Getting to know the teachers better.

Sam: I agree with Katie. Also, the work is obviously harder and more intense for each subject at A Level, so it's much easier if you choose subjects you like. You have to be more focused and prioritise your deadlines.

Tell us your plans for life after 6th Form.

Sam: I'd like to study Biochemistry at Uni. Other ambitions are to travel the world, live in Canada and go sky diving.

Katie: I am not sure I fancy sky diving but I would like to travel as well, possibly around America, and I would love to see the Northern Lights.

Describe WGS 6th Form in 3 words... (keep it clean!)

Katie

1. Relaxed
2. Friendly
3. Cool

Sam

1. Chilled
2. Stressful
3. Social

Katie's Top Tip for making the most of WGS 6th Form life:

Make sure you go on the tours, even if you have to save up and pay a bit yourself! They are amazing and having this experience with your closest friends is the best bit.

Sam's Top Tip for making the most of WGS 6th Form life:

Make sure you are organised and work hard outside of lesson time. To begin with you are tempted to just socialise during free periods, but you soon realise that it's better to get your work done then you have time later for all the stuff you really want to do.

Best thing about being Prefects in the 6th Form

Katie: Getting to the front of the lunch queue. And also, being a role model for the younger pupils. I really enjoy chatting to the Y7's in the Hub and helping them settle into The Grove. After all, we were all there once!

Sam: Definitely the lunch queue, although Katie somehow manages to always get in first! Also, having responsibility at school gives you a bit of a taste of what life will be like at work.

Worst thing about being Prefects in the 6th Form

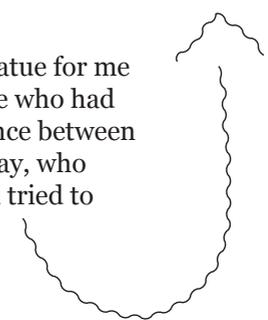
- **Sam:** Sitting at the front in assembly is definitely it. But I guess it means everyone knows who we are.
- **Katie:** Yes – being on show in assembly is not exactly my favourite part of the day!



When you leave, how would you like to be remembered?

Katie: As a good role model and approachable. Maybe as a giant statue in the quad!

Sam: No statue for me but someone who had a good balance between work and play, who listened and tried to help.



*Like what you hear?
Read on to find out more...*

Woody's Café. Paul who runs it is a top bloke and his pizza at break time is great!

01



02

Great teachers – they really take the time to get to know you, don't treat you like a child and are always available for a chat.

05

All the help you get with UCAS and careers. They don't just want you to do well so it looks good in the school prospectus – they actually care.

The lemon chicken and broccoli stir fry.

06

08

Small class sizes make it much easier to learn, ask questions and contribute to discussions during lessons.

07

Even if you want to do a really unusual combination of subjects, they will try their best to make it happen.

03

The sense of community. Y12 and Y13 all hang out together and the 6th Form Centre feels like a really special, friendly place that is ours.



Top
10

GOOD Reasons to join us!



04

Mrs. Frost's chocolate brownies. OMG.



09

The people! I've made some great friends here who I will stay in touch with forever.

10

There is loads to do when you are not studying – like sport, drama and music – and some brilliant trips you can go on. So you're never just hanging around. Unless you fancy a rest in the 6th Form Centre of course!



What Can I Study?

On Offer

- Art
- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Design and Technology
- Drama and Theatre Studies
- Economics
- English Language and Literature
- English Literature
- Finance
- French
- Geography
- Geology
- German
- Government and Politics
- History
- Mathematics
- Further Mathematics
- Media Studies
- Music
- Music Technology
- Physics
- Psychology
- Philosophy (RS)
- Spanish
- Sport (BTEC)

Flexible Studies

Unlike other schools and colleges, we build our subject option blocks around your combination requirements – not the other way around. And unlike other places, we are able to run courses for small numbers of pupils. This means that over 95% of students are able to study their chosen 4 subjects, however unusual the combination.

Our A Level teachers are long-standing and highly experienced. You will be taught by a qualified expert in the subject you are studying. And because we understand the pressures of the additional workload in the 6th Form, the contact time you have with teachers is far more generous than you will find elsewhere.

Here are some *pretty impressive* figures:

In 2016, over *90%* of students secured a place at their first choice university.

2016 A Level pass rate of over *99%*

2016 average UCAS points score of over *320* (ABB equivalent)

However, 6th Form at The Grove is about more than this. It is a place where you can find out what really makes you tick and make your own stamp. We simply take that very special brand that is uniquely you and help you sell it to the world.

What Should I Study?

Decisions, Decisions!

The biggest difference between Y11 and 6th Form is that you will spend a lot more time per subject – so it is important that you pick the right ones! Deputy Head, Mr. Wright tells you how...

Also known as a 'lightbulb' moment...



MR WRIGHT'S GUIDE TO SUBJECT SELECTION

Do you know what you want to do after 6th Form?

YES

MAYBE

NO

Wow! We're impressed. Come and talk to us about what you need to do next. Years of experience have given us insider knowledge on universities – what subjects they like, their application processes and grade requirements. We can also help you find the best route into the career you want, whether this is further study or an Apprenticeship. We look forward to hearing from you!

Congratulations – you are completely normal! Most students have no idea until late Y12 / early Y13. Our best advice is to make a list of the subjects you enjoy most. Now grab this list and come and talk to us. We'll decide together which subjects will leave the most doors open – and perhaps just talking about it, will give you some ideas about what your future might hold...

Great – this is a good place to be. Come for a chat and we'll discuss the options best suited to your ideas – but also put some contingencies in place, in case you change your mind. Our 6th Form Centre is staffed from 7.30am until 6pm – so there is always someone on hand to chat to about your work and UCAS and Careers issues.

University selection is very different to what it was when your parents were at school, with less rigid subject requirements, pre-interview testing and the need to choose 4 universities. You will find that it is not only you that the whole process is new to, but also your parents. If you think they would like to discuss it with us then just ask them to give us a call. We love chatting to parents!

Ailsa Ferrie

Year 13

CASE STUDY



"I love the friendliness of the 6th Form – how everyone talks to each other..."

I started the 6th Form studying English Literature, Biology, History and Politics. By October half term, I knew that English wasn't for me. I met with Mrs. Ainscoe to discuss my options. I had already had some work experience at the end of Year 11 at a law firm and knew that this wasn't a career path I wanted to pursue – but I was still undecided about what I actually wanted to do after 6th Form. Medicine was at the back of my mind – but because both my parents are in this field, it felt a little too predictable. Mrs. Ainscoe and I discussed the best subject to replace English Lit. that would not limit my choices at University – including the possibility that I did decide to choose Medicine after all. In the end, I decided to go for Chemistry.

Perhaps it was this change that made up my mind – but I finally realised that Medicine was what I wanted to do after all. Cue another chat with Mrs. Ainscoe – who gave me information on the work experience Universities expect from potential medical students and advice on UKCAT and BMAT tests and which Unis require which tests. We also spent time together talking about different Universities, which ones best suited me and which Unis would "like" me most.

I finally narrowed it down to 4 Unis: Glasgow, Edinburgh, Manchester and King's. Following Mrs. Ainscoe's advice, I visited each one – with my mum – and attended the medical school talks they offered. This helped me see which ones suited my personality and also which ones offered courses that appealed to me the most; Glasgow and King's. I then did some more research on other Universities that offered similar courses to these two and the closest were Birmingham and Queen's. Unfortunately, I couldn't make the Birmingham open day, which I was disappointed about. Mrs. Ainscoe suggested I email them – which was great advice because they then sent me a link to a virtual tour of the campus!

My 6th Form journey is far from over – but I can honestly say that the support I have received from The Grove has been a great help. I love the friendliness of the 6th Form – how everyone talks to each other – and will be sad when it is over. But I am now very excited about what lies ahead!

A day in the life of a Grove 6th Former. The official term is "Freedom within a Framework" which basically means: enjoy your lessons, then feel free to make the day your own. After all, you're here because you want to be!

8.15AM

Drive into school and either nip to the dining room for breakfast or get a coffee at Woody's.

8.30AM

First lesson – Economics.

10.35AM

House Assembly. Note down the dates for upcoming House events – have a good feeling that this could be our year!

10.55AM

Break. Head to the 6th Form Centre for a snack and some chat. Catch Mrs. Ainscoe for her feedback on my Uni choices so far.

12 NOON

Spend some time at the Hub, chatting to Year 7's about school and homework. Seems like ages since I was their age...

1PM

Lunch. Meet up with everyone for Mrs. Frost's beef madras. Sneak in a jam doughnut – it would be rude not to!

2PM

Psychology. Totally reinforces my decision to read this at Uni.

3PM

Visit the library for a bit of research.

BEAT THE CLOCK.

Boarding at The Grove is totally flexible and gives 6th Formers a taste of what it is like to live in Uni Halls. Think about it – it could be the ideal option for you.

4.15PM

Netball practice. Got to work off that doughnut...

5.45PM

Decide to stay at The Grove for tea as the parents are both working late. Good move – it's Taco Night!

Living the Dream.



Game On.

We're not going to lie, sport is pretty massive at The Grove and whether you're a player or a supporter, there's plenty of good natured sports banter to be had in Woody's most days. The full fixture list for team sports means there are regular practices in the week and matches most weekends. If team sport is not your thing then you can use the gym, pool or climbing wall to get your fitness fix. The daily lunchtime football kickabout is hugely popular with our 6th Formers and many leavers class it as a highlight in their yearbooks.



Facilities include

“Our 6th Form sports offering is based on the mission statements of ‘From Participation to Performance’ and ‘I am Grovian’. We seek to offer a broad range of opportunities for all abilities and aspirations. This includes social and recreational activity to supporting and guiding those with high level ambitions. We have a proud record of high achievement and national profile in a number of key sports and are determined to build on this legacy. Enthusiastic staff have proven expertise, the facilities are enviable and combine with a culture to produce a unique experience with tour memories and friendships that will last a lifetime.”

Mr Howard, Director of Sport

Recital Room

Theatre

Work of Art.

From brass band to rock band, from cabaret to Shakespeare, we have everything covered for our 6th Formers interested in music and drama. There is a full programme of break time concerts and recitals, so if performing is your thing you won't be twiddling your thumbs at The Grove.

Whether you are studying Music or Drama at A Level or are simply passionate about your art, our dedicated Performing Arts team will help you find the perfect channel for your creativity. The stage is yours.

“Taking part in music as a 6th Form student puts you in a position of responsibility and leadership; whether that's overtly encouraging the younger pupils in their music-making or more subtly by modelling performance and rehearsal etiquette. We expect you to want to be a role model and to be actively involved in music events of all kinds. A full and varied music programme looks good on your CV but it also builds a whole range of social skills which will stand you in good stead later in life. So why not get involved in some of our excellent musical activities.”

Mr Tedd, Director of Performing Arts

Out of the Classroom.

The Grove 6th Form is about a lot more than just studying. We hope that you will be able to grab a few of the many other opportunities on offer. After all, getting out of the classroom is vital not just for a healthy UCAS form – but also a healthy, happy you!

Universities read the same old UCAS statements over and over again. At The Grove, there are opportunities to suit all interests that will make you stand out from the crowd. The Duke of Edinburgh Award is a proud stamp for any CV whilst future business tycoons can test their entrepreneurial flair in the Leeds Enterprise Advisory Programme, setting up a business from scratch and marketing their product. Grove 6th Formers also participate in the National Citizen Service, meeting new people and learning new skills before delivering their own social action project and making a real difference to the world around them.

Why not apply to be a Prefect or become a mentor to younger pupils at The Hub? The Grove is the perfect place to test out your leadership skills. Who knows where they could take you?

Interesting activities
make your application
to universities stand
out from the crowd.

We are constantly thinking of ways to make our students' A Level experience as exciting and interesting as possible – from theatre trips to meetings with industry experts. We try to bring your studies to life – but are also aware that there is life after studies. Our Pre-U programme covers all those tricky social issues you might come across now and in the future.

Our students always include the opportunity to travel on trips and tours as a very special aspect of 6th Form life at The Grove. Fancy trekking through Uganda, flying down the pistes in Pila or taking wickets on the beaches of St. Lucia? Make your first stop The Grove and you might find yourself there quicker than you think!



**CASE
STUDY**

Ben Waddington

Year 13

What Grove 6th Form tours have you been on?

In August 2015 I went on a rugby tour to South Africa and Swaziland.

What were the best bits?

The best part of the tour was going to a small village in South Africa where we taught children how to play rugby and then gave them some rugby kit. I also enjoyed the banter on the long bus journeys!

What subjects are you studying?

Business, Geography, Finance and BTEC Sport.

What do you hope to do after the 6th Form?

I am planning to take a gap year to travel to New Zealand and then go to university when I come back.

How do you find the work / life balance at The Grove?

It can sometimes be tricky as playing rugby can take up a lot

of my time after school. Using my free periods to do work takes a lot of the pressure off though.

What has your 6th Form experience been like at The Grove?

At the start it was quite a challenge as it is a fairly big step up from Y11 - but I have enjoyed taking on new responsibilities and have created some great memories.





Interested in applying for
Woodhouse Grove 6th Form?
Please fill in an Application
Form online at
woodhousegrove.co.uk/admissions
or email
admissions@woodhousegrove.co.uk



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