

GROW AT







GRAHAM SCHOOL IS PART OF HOPE SENTAMU LEARNING TRUST

Principal's WELCOME

I am delighted to welcome you to Graham School. I fully understand the importance of choosing the right secondary school for your child. To entrust the care of your child to others is one of the most important decisions you will make. Thank you for considering Graham School for your child.

Our school is a growing school on a journey. Our student numbers have increased in the last few years, significant parts of our school building have been updated and we have many new teachers and members of staff. We are extremely proud of the progress we have made.

At Graham School we want everyone in our community to 'Grow, Learn and Achieve together' and we believe that an appreciation of the importance of learning and education is crucial.

Through our school values of 'Honesty, Empathy, Aspiration, Resilience and Teamwork' we are confident that we can support every child to be successful and to achieve their aspirations, whatever their starting point.

As Principal, I understand the importance of nurturing the talents of all children to ensure they both value and feel rewarded by education. I believe that all children should

enjoy learning and be given every chance to achieve their dreams. We are excited to have the opportunity to help shape your child's future and I look forward to meeting you in the coming weeks.

Emma Robins Principal







School INTRODUCTION

At Graham School, the welfare of our students is at the very centre of everything that we do, supported by positive relationships developed between staff and students. We are an inclusive community school and are committed to ensuring that all students fulfil their potential, are well prepared for adult life and are able to make a positive contribution to the society in which they live.

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum, which strives to meet the needs of all students of all abilities. We encourage students to reach their aspirations whilst also developing life skills and building resilience.

In years 7, 8 and 9 students follow a broad and balanced curriculum which is rich, ambitious and well sequenced. At the end of Year 9, students choose their GCSE options from a range of academic and vocational courses.

Our Values

Honesty Empathy Aspiration Resilience Teamwork





All students at Graham School also follow a Philosophy and Ethics course which covers Religious Studies and a broad Personal, Social, Health and Economic education curriculum.

The progress of students is constantly monitored to ensure high standards of achievement and high expectation in terms of the quality of work produced. We are very pleased to have specialist teachers at Graham School who plan, prepare and deliver high quality lessons to enthuse students.

We aim to develop a love for learning and a breadth of knowledge which supports both the academic, and personal development of every student. Our students leave with the confidence and maturity for the next stage in their lives.



Every student at Graham School has a Form Tutor and a Head of Year who support their form or year group on a daily basis. This ensures students feel confident and can settle quickly into the routines of school life; they have a point of contact for every eventuality.

In addition, we have a strong pastoral support team which includes an Education Welfare Support Officer, a Behaviour Support Officer for each year group and a Learning Mentor.

We have high expectations of all of our students in every area of school life, including uniform and behaviour, allowing us to establish a meaningful learning environment. Our behaviour policy seeks to reward students and encourage a positive and supportive environment.

Students are actively encouraged to involve themselves fully in every aspect of the school. We have a thriving School Council, Anti-Bullying ambassadors and many other great opportunities for students to be involved in the life of our school. Our students are happy; they are at the heart of our school and we listen carefully to their views, often making changes based on their feedback.

We strive to develop strong relationships with parents and carers and encourage you to take a close interest in the progress of your children through regular communication with school. Each year, you will be invited to a Parents / Carers Evening to meet your child's teachers and discuss their progress as well as receiving a progress report twice a year. We value your support in ensuring we meet the individual needs of our students







Prior to joining Graham School, your child will hopefully have taken some of the opportunities to visit us. Some of our key staff will have visited your child's school on a number of occasions to build relationships, answer questions and provide peace of mind.

Many of our feeder primary schools will have engaged in lessons provided by our staff on our school site which may have included science, PE and maths lessons.

In July of Year 6, your child will take part in our two-day induction programme which will allow them to start to form relationships with new friends and staff. They will get to know their way around and experience the life of the school.

Parents and carers will also have the opportunity to visit the school to meet key staff and learn more about life at Graham School. Parent tours are welcomed at all times throughout the academic year.





JOINING our school

All students are invited to participate in our popular summer school during the first week of the summer holidays. On joining school, your child will be placed into a tutor group with a fixed form room, alongside at least one other nominated friend from their primary school. Each child will be issued with a planner in which they have their daily timetable and staff will use this to communicate directly with parents. In turn this will be your first port of call should you wish to contact school.

We also use an application called Edulink which allows parents and carers to access school data for their child and make home to school communications. We have a dedicated Head of Year 7 who will support your child to have a happy, settled and confident start to secondary school.

You can find more information regarding transition from primaru to secondaru on our school website





SUPPORTING our students

Our school is an exciting place to learn. We actively seek to create opportunities to broaden the experiences of our students, seeking to build confidence and self-esteem and raise aspirations. We encourage students to extend their learning and develop their talents by offering a range of opportunities beyond the classroom.

Our library is vibrant and as well as offering our students a wide range of books to read it is a well-used study area. Our Learning Support area is also well used by students who can benefit from one-to-one support, take the chance to practise new skills and develop friendships at social times.



Students can take advantage of a wide range of extracurricular activities such as Art Club, Duke of Edinburgh Award, Games Club, Chess Club and many, many PE opportunities. We have a thriving performing arts area which offers opportunities to take part in performances and productions. Many of these activities take place at the end of the school day and also include a wide variety of more traditional sporting activities and school competitive teams. We are very proud to have sports teams representing the school at events across the area. Activities are open to all year groups and offer a great environment to make new friends and learn new skills.

We actively encourage students to prepare for their future and we are extremely proud of the careersbased opportunities we offer in school. Amongst others, students can benefit from engineering and design workshops, enterprise challenges, careers interviews and visits to local colleges and universities. We regularly welcome professionals, including former Graham students, to school to talk to students about their own careers.

We believe that offering students the chance to explore the wider world is important to broaden horizons. This includes working with many external organisations.

Students have the opportunity to develop their knowledge of the local area through field trips, theatre visits and tours of local colleges. Opportunities are also designed to support the development of confidence and resilience such as visits to the Yorkshire Water Park. We are pleased to be able to offer students visits further afield as well. These include residential courses at universities and an annual trip to London and France. In 2024, we had our third CAMPS International Expedition, this time to Cambodia. GRAHAM SCHOOL IS PART OF HOPE SENTAMU LEARNING TRUST

Our Trust's Vision & Values

We are a strong, inclusive and collaborative Church of England multi-academy trust of fourteen church, community and alternative provision schools. Guided by our Christian ethos and values of kindness, respect and teamwork, we welcome students, colleagues and schools of all faiths and none.

We share a clear vision – 'to create schools where children and young people thrive, as we help them prepare to live life in all its fullness'.

For us, a place to thrive means much more than a place simply to be comfortable. Instead, our aim is to develop schools and an educational offer which enable each student to flourish academically, practically, emotionally, socially and spiritually. We help them to understand what their own successful and fulfilled life could be, by opening doors, providing choice, and encouraging ambition.

KINDNESS | RESPECT | TEAMWORK

Graham School

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