



Grange School

... is a large, town centre, mixed, multi-cultural, comprehensive school catering for the 11 to 16 age range, adjacent to the Oldham College and very close to the Oldham Sixth Form College.

The school is very much at the cutting edge of innovation in education and in September 2002 we became a designated Visual Arts College. In April 2004 we became the hub of The Central Oldham Federation and also a Leading Edge School.

The vast majority of our pupils are from ethnic minority families with 87.1% coming from Bangladeshi families and 10% coming from Pakistani families.

Oldham itself is an industrial town to the northeast of Manchester and one of the ten Metropolitan Boroughs of Greater Manchester. It has undergone considerable rebuilding and development in recent years and it now boasts an excellent shopping centre. The M62 motorway is close at

hand and there is easy access to the Lake District and Peak District National Park.

Secondary education in the borough is provided in 15 secondary schools and 5 special schools.

THE SCHOOL BUILDINGS

Grange School occupies a large site next to Rochdale Road.

The main teaching block includes a well-stocked library and an internet linked ICT facility as well as comfortable staffroom facilities (a workroom and a lounge). There is an interactive smart board in most classrooms, a wireless network throughout the block and lap tops available for pupils to use in lessons.

The Science, Technology and Art blocks are built on three floors and includes a suite of 7 laboratories, four of which have recently been refurbished. The Technology and Art areas have been refurbished

during the last two years and in September 2002 new ICT and Graphic Media Suites were completed along with an Art Gallery.

The indoor sports complex comprises a large multi purpose Sports Hall and a modern well-equipped gymnasium, which has just had a new wooden floor.

We were successful in applying for a £500,000 Sports Lottery grant in 2000 to upgrade our outdoor facilities and we have an astroturf pitch, a tarmac kick about area and two large tennis court/netball court areas, all floodlit, with new purpose built changing accommodation.

Our mission statement states that;

“Grange School exists as a place where people of all races, religions, abilities and aspirations will find safety, respect and encouragement for full individual development.”

PUPILS, STAFF AND PARENTS

There are approximately 770 pupils on roll and we are proud of our reputation as a forward-looking and caring establishment. All our pupils wear uniform; homework is given and discipline is firm but fair.

There are around 60 teaching staff, together with a team of approximately 40 administrative, technical and curriculum support staff.

Our staff are friendly and hard working and they set the tone for the school.

They have a high standard of dress, a concern for providing a good, all round education for our pupils and a corporate responsibility for maintaining and improving standards.

The school has purchased a laptop for every member of the teaching staff to support a whole range of activities geared to reducing workload and supporting several school improvement targets.

We have a staff briefing on Mondays and Wednesdays and a Staff Bulletin every Monday. It is our policy that senior staff give support to any member of staff who wants such help.

We are a no-smoking school and comply with the LEA Policy on smoking in public buildings.

Contact with parents is welcomed and encouraged, since we firmly believe that it is the three-way partnership of pupils, teachers and parents that works best.

We work extremely hard with the local community and we were awarded the Schools Curriculum Award for our community work for the second time in 2002.

We are also very keen to encourage the professional development of all our staff and we have recently been granted Investors in People status for the second time.

THE CURRICULUM

Pupils in Year 7, 8 and 9 follow courses laid down by the National Curriculum in English, Mathematics, Science, Technology, French, History, Geography, Music, Art, Physical Education, Religious Education, ICT and PSHE/Citizenship.

The current Year 10 pupils will have a core curriculum of English, Mathematics, Science, PSHE/Citizenship, PE and then a wide choice from 5 option blocks.

We run an extensive extra curricular programme, some of which is staffed on a voluntary basis and some of which is funded by Excellence in Cities Study Support Grant.

We continually monitor the curriculum and are always keen to explore new opportunities. We have a well-established reporting system which tracks pupil's progress towards targets set by their teachers.

The school has made tremendous progress in the past few years and we are looking for an enthusiastic, innovative Headteacher, who will be able to maintain and enhance our well deserved reputation locally, regionally and nationally.

We are proud of our achievements in recent years and our GCSE figures, which can be found in our PANDA, have been improving over the last 7 years. Indeed, we were recognised at the DfES to be the 4th best school in the country in terms of Value Added KS3 to KS4 and we were also recognised as the best Visual Arts college in the country by the Specialist Schools Trust for their value added measure from KS2 - KS4.

In April 2004 we were invited to become a member of the Specialist Schools Trust Most Value Added Club and a member of the Most Improved Club, an accolade only afforded to 92 Specialist Schools in the country.

The demography of the school has changed during the past few years and we have changed from approx. 180 in each year group to approx. 160 in each year group. This has provided us with an opportunity to restructure the whole teaching and non teaching staff and many of the work force reform issues have now been addressed. We are now well placed to start work on introducing the new teaching and learning allowances later this year.

An Ofsted inspection in April 2002 described us as "a good school with areas of excellence in its work". If you can offer something to a school which places a high value on its most valuable resource, the staff, then we would like to hear from you.

I am sure that your research will lead you to the conclusion that the school has made significant improvement during the past seven years and we are keen to build on these achievements.

I hope that this gives you something of a flavour of Grange School. We are a forward-looking school with a clear vision of how we can improve academic standards.

The school is ready for someone to lead us during the next phase of our development and into the second five year phase of specialism, where we are hoping to be able to offer a second specialist subject.



Grange School

A DFES DESIGNATED SPECIALIST VISUAL ARTS COLLEGE

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS : Mr JK Leyden JP

HEADTEACHER : Mr G Hollinshead MEd

A Local Authority Community High School - Net Capacity Assessment 875

MISSION STATEMENT

“Grange School exists as a place where people of all races, religions, abilities and aspirations will find safety, respect and encouragement for full individual development.”

AIMS

To provide a caring and supportive school where all who work in it can give of their best

To encourage our youngsters to enjoy their education and the challenge of learning and to encourage parents in supporting their children and the school in what we do

To encourage our youngsters to become tolerant, caring and responsible members of the community while they are at school and after leaving

To provide all youngsters with a broad education, based on the National Curriculum, which will develop their talents and abilities and prepare them for life after school

To make sure that they are prepared for examinations, working life, leisure, parenthood and being good citizens, by helping them to develop skills and attitudes such as pride in their work, reliability, loyalty, honesty and flexibility

To establish the school as part of the community and to foster links with the community within and beyond Oldham

ADMISSIONS POLICY

The Local Authority has a free booklet setting out the Authority's Admissions Policy for secondary schools in Oldham. This is available from The Education Offices, Oldham MBC, Civic Centre, PO Box 40, West Street, Oldham OL1 1XJ. There are 175 places available in each year group and at the beginning of the 2005 allocation process the following parental choices for Grange School were recorded by Oldham LEA. -1st Choice 161 -2nd Choice 108 -3rd Choice 134 -4th Choice 68.

PARENTS' VISITS

Any parents and their child wanting to visit the school before making a choice will be very welcome. Please telephone or write to the school to make arrangements. The annual Open Day which is advertised in the Oldham Evening Chronicle, will be held on Wednesday, October 5th between 9.30am and 3.30pm.

ACADEMIC ORGANISATION

In most subjects, pupils are placed in sets according to their ability in the subject concerned. A wide range of teaching methods are used appropriate to the age and ability of the pupils and the type of work they are doing.

SUBJECTS AND COURSES

In Years 7, 8 & 9 (Key Stage 3) all pupils follow the National Curriculum for English, Mathematics, Science, Technology, French, Geography, History, ICT, Religious Education, Art, Music and Physical Education. In addition all pupils take part in Drama and PSHE/Citizenship lessons, which includes aspects of the citizenship programme recommended for schools.

In Years 10 & 11 (Key Stage 4) pupils follow the National Curriculum for English, Mathematics, Science, Religious Education, ICT and Physical Education. Pupils also have a choice of other subjects including Technology, Modern Foreign Language, Geography, History, Art and Drama or they may opt to take the Vocational GCSE courses in Leisure and Tourism or Health and Social Care. Some pupils may also follow a GNVQ course in Art and ICT and all pupils take part in a PSHE/Citizenship lesson, which includes Careers Education and Guidance.

EXAMINATIONS POLICY

In general, pupils in Year 11 are entered for public examinations if the school believes they have a reasonable chance of success. This means that pupils must satisfy the school's requirements for attendance and completion of coursework. Before the pupils are entered for their GCSE/GNVQ examinations, there is an opportunity to discuss entry decisions at the school's annual Review Day. All external examinations and courses at Grange School meet with the approval of the DfES.

HOMEWORK

Homework is set by teachers to be done outside lesson time. It may be completed at home, or at a local library, or at specially organised school Study Support sessions, supervised by the school staff. Homework is valuable because it develops good work habits, enables pupils prepare work for use in school and gives them practice in the skills they have learnt. Every pupil is given a Pupil Planner in which details of every piece of homework set should be written. Parents are asked to check the planner regularly and certainly every week.

CAREERS AND WORK EXPERIENCE

Careers Guidance is given a high priority. The programme begins in Year 9 when pupils prepare to enter their course of study in Year 10. Discussions about the pupils' option choices are held at the annual Review Day. All pupils in Years 10 and 11 are prepared for the World of Work through special Careers Education lessons. The Oldham Connexions Service gives professional support throughout this stage of the pupil's education. A Connexions Personal Adviser visits the school regularly and pupils can make appointments for individual advice.

SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION

The school's Sex and Relationships Education programme has been developed within the guidelines issued by the DfES and the Local Education Authority. Pupils are taught in single sex groups and the programme aims to foster a sense of responsibility and to encourage development of a positive self-image and to reassure pupils of their value and self-worth. A copy of the Sex and Relationship Policy is available from the school. Parents may withdraw their children from these lessons and are asked to contact the Head if they wish to do this.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education is taught in accordance with the Local Authority's Agreed Syllabus, which was drawn up with the agreement of all the major faith groups in Oldham.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

There are assemblies for all year groups in the assembly area. Parents may withdraw their children from assemblies or from lessons in Religious Education and are asked to contact the Head if they wish to do this. The school was granted determination in April 2003. This removes the legal requirement to hold a daily act of Christian worship.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND SPECIAL NEEDS SUPPORT

This school provides additional support for EAL pupils and pupils with Special Educational Needs.

The Language Development teachers provide specialist help for pupils who have recently arrived in England and have not previously been educated in English medium schools. These are early stage learners. The teachers also work with colleagues across the curriculum to support the Language Development of all our bi-lingual pupils.

The Home School Liaison Officers are also key members of staff who are keen to develop links between the school, parents and the local community. The language development teachers, home school liaison officers, bi-lingual support workers and teaching assistants are separately funded through the Ethnic Minority Achievement Grant.

The Learning Support Teachers provide specialist help for pupils with moderate learning difficulties, specific learning difficulties and emotional and behavioural difficulties. The school's policy is to ensure that all pupils have the opportunity to achieve their full potential through access to a broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum. The school receives additional funding to provide the support needed through a team of trained staff. Help for pupils is organised in line with the national Code of Practice. When a pupil is identified as needing help, parents are invited to take part in the development and regular review of support plans to meet that need. In all aspects of its work, the Learning Support Department has strong links with outside agencies. A copy of the Special Education Needs Policy is available from the school on request.

AFTER-SCHOOL STUDY SUPPORT

This is available to assist pupils who require additional help with their studies. Sessions are held at the end of the school day and are supervised by the teaching staff of the school.

There are Saturday morning sessions and revision sessions during the Easter holidays.

PASTORAL ORGANISATION

On joining the school, a pupil will be placed in a mixed ability tutor group. Each year has its own Head and Assistant Head working closely with a team of Form Tutors to provide welfare, support and guidance to the individual pupil.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Teachers provide a wide range of activities at lunch time and at the end of the normal school day. There is a range of sports including badminton, basketball, football, weight training, cricket, tennis, netball and hockey; various musical groups and many other activities including a wide range of homework clubs.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

The school expects high standards of attendance and punctuality from all its pupils as frequent and continued absence can hamper a child's educational progress.

Pupils must be in School by 8.40 am in the morning and 1.00 pm in the afternoon. They will be marked late after 10.00am and 1.15pm. No pupil is allowed to leave the school premises between 8.40am and 3.15 pm, except to go home for lunch, without the permission of the Head of Year.

The school operates a first day policy to notify parents of a child's absence if this has not been notified previously. Any pupil who needs to leave school for a medical/dental appointment should bring the relevant medical card to show to their Head of Year.

SCHOOL RULES AND ROUTINE

We expect high standards at Grange School in all aspects of life including discipline and courtesy. We place emphasis on self-discipline and want the school to be a pleasant place for everyone. Pupils whose behaviour is unacceptable can expect to be disciplined by being given extra work, extra duties or a detention in accordance with the school's behaviour policy. We look for support from parents when a pupil's behaviour gives cause for concern and we work closely with parents at all times.

We believe that certain rules are necessary to ensure the comfort, good order and safety of the children. The rules apply to all our pupils and are displayed on Form Room notice boards. Any changes will be notified to parents in our monthly newsletter.

DETENTIONS

- 1 Pupils may be kept in detention for up to 15 minutes on the day of an offence without notification.
- 2 A pupil may be kept in detention for more than 15 minutes after school for unsatisfactory work or behaviour. Parents will be informed by letter giving 24 hours notice.
- 3 There is a School Detention every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 3.15 pm to 4.15 pm for serious offences. Parents will be notified well in advance if their son or daughter is in School Detention.

RULES ABOUT PERSONAL PROPERTY

Large sums of money, cameras, radios, liquid paper and chewing gum must not be brought into school. Purses must not be left in classrooms or changing rooms. If a pupil is obliged to bring a large sum of money to school it should be handed to the Head of Year in order to keep it secure. Mobile phones are allowed in school but all mobiles must be switched off during lessons. Pupils caught using a mobile phone during lesson time will have it confiscated for the remainder of the day.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Grange School uniform consists of practical clothing in the plain school colour. It can be bought at multiple or department stores, private outfitters or at the market to suit the parents' choice. Pullovers and ties may be purchased in school.

DETAILS OF UNIFORM (BOTH SEXES)

V-necked jumper in black with the Grange School logo
Black tie with blue stripes
Black skirt or trousers of conventional cut and style
Thick tights, socks or shalwar - black or white
All hair bands, slides etc. should be plain black or white
Shoes should be black and low heeled
White shirt or blouse

Leather garments, jewellery, boots, training shoes, baggy style trousers and chinos are not allowed.

GIRLS' PE KIT

White PE shirt Track suit, predominantly black optional
White or black socks Gym shoes or training shoes
Black sportswear sweatshirt optional for wear with tracksuit bottoms

BOYS' PE KIT

Plain white crew neck PE vest Plain white PE shorts
Plain white socks Royal blue football jersey
White football socks Gym shoes or training shoes
Towel Track suit predominantly black optional
Black sportswear sweatshirt optional for wear with tracksuit bottoms

SUPPLIERS

School Days - 0161-620 5779

Debonair Children's Wear - 0161-620 0237

SCHOOL SPORT

The school's Physical Education Department teaches a wide range of sports including gymnastics, swimming, athletics, weight training, aerobics, table tennis, orienteering, badminton, tennis and short tennis. Team games include basketball, netball, hockey, football, rugby, cricket, rounders and volleyball.

Years 7 - 9 have two hours per week of Physical Education whilst Year 10 and 11 have one hour per week of Physical Education allocated on the curriculum. The Physical Education GCSE group have an extra three hours per week. Approximately 20 hours per week are devoted to extra curricular Physical Education.

The school has a wide range of facilities, which include a fully equipped gymnasium, multi purpose sports hall, weights room, six tennis/netball courts, one all weather floodlit hockey/football pitch and a six a side all weather games area. The facilities are available for the community during the evening and at weekend and can be booked at Oldham Sports Centre. The outdoor facilities have been completely redeveloped following a successful bid to the Sports Lottery Board.

There are various members of the school staff with specialist coaching qualifications in a range of sports and the school involves coaches from outside school in a variety of lessons. Many pupils have also attended different centres for specialist coaching and the school enjoys good links with several clubs in the local area particularly in football (boys and girls), cricket, athletics, gymnastics, volleyball, rugby, netball and aerobics.

MEALS

At lunchtime a pupil must go home for lunch, have a school lunch or have a sandwich lunch in the Dining Hall. This rule is vital for the protection of pupils and parents are asked to emphasise its importance to their children.

HOW TO MAKE A COMPLAINT

If you have a complaint about Grange School, please let us know as soon as possible. The school will attend to your complaints promptly.

Please either telephone the School Office 0161 652 2428 or write to the Head at the School. Alternatively you may wish to contact the Chair of the Governors, Mr JK Leyden, 89 Constantine Street, Greenacres, Oldham, OL4 3HE. Tel: 0161 633 6841.

In almost every case we can resolve things within the school, but if you are not satisfied then the Local Education Authority has a formal complaints procedure for referring complaints to the School Governors or eventually to the Local Authority itself.

PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM ABUSE

Parents should be aware that the school will take any reasonable action to ensure the safety of pupils. Where the school is concerned that a child may be the subject of physical abuse, neglect or other forms of abuse, staff must follow the Oldham Child Protection Procedures and report their concerns to the Oldham Social Services Department.

SCHOOL CHARGING POLICY

The School's policy is in accordance with Government Charging Regulations. There are no charges for education in school hours but the school may ask for a voluntary contribution for any visits or activities in school time and outside school hours. No pupils will be excluded on the grounds that they have not paid a contribution. The school does expect parents to provide, besides school uniform and PE kit, other necessities including pens, pencils, rulers, calculators and a bag in which equipment can be carried.

Parents are also asked to provide the ingredients for Food Technology lessons and a contribution towards the cost of some items made in Technology, if these are to be taken home afterwards.

DESTINATION OF SCHOOL LEAVERS IN 2004

The Careers Service list pupil destinations in Year 11 in 2004 as follows :

School course or a course of further education	81.6%
Job with no training	2.2%
Job with training	0%
Traineeship/Modern Apprenticeship	6%
Other	10.2%

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 2005/2006

Autumn Half Term	Monday 24.10.05 - 28.02.05 Friday
Christmas	Monday 19.12.05 - 02.01.06 Monday
Spring Half Term	Monday 20.02.06 - 24.02.06 Friday
Easter	Monday 10.04.06 - 21.04.06 Friday
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 01.05.06
Whitsuntide Half Term	Monday 29.05.06 - 02.06.06 Friday
Summer	Monday 24.07.06 -

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 2006/2007

Autumn Half Term	Monday 23.10.06 - 27.10.06 Friday
Christmas	Monday 18.12.06 - 01.01.07 Monday
Spring Half Term	Monday 12.02.07 - 16.02.07 Friday
Easter	Monday 02.04.07 - 13.04.07 Friday
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 07.05.07
Whitsuntide Half Term	Monday 28.05.07 - 01.06.07 Friday
Summer	Monday 23.07.07 -

ATTENDANCE INFORMATION 2004-2005

Number of pupils of compulsory age on roll for at least one session	817
The percentage of pupil sessions (half days) missed through authorised absence	6.8%
The percentage of pupil sessions (half days) missed through unauthorised absence	0.6%
Overall attendance	92.6%

2005 SCHOOL PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

Age Group 15 - GCSE Level Performance Information from School Records

Result	Boys	Girls	Total
Students aged 15	67	91	158
Students achieving Level 2 the equivalent of 5A* - C passes	40 60%	71 78%	111 70%
Students achieving Level 1 the equivalent of 5A* - G passes	54 80%	82 90%	136 86%
Students entered for at least an entry level qualification	63 94%	88 97%	151 96%
Students achieving at least an entry level qualification	63 94%	88 97%	151 96%
Students achieving no passes at entry level	4 6%	3 3%	7 4%