

*In Partnership to
Educate, Nurture & Empower*



Abbey Grange C of E Academy

PROSPECTUS



***"Abbey Grange has given
me the tools to dream big
and the belief that I can
achieve anything in life."***

Student



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Welcome from the Principal

Abbey Grange Church of England Academy is a thriving, highly successful and over-subscribed 11-18 secondary school which became an academy in 2011, and a founder member of the Abbey Multi Academy Trust in 2014. Abbey Grange wholeheartedly follows the Church of England's vision for education to

'live life in all its fullness' (John 10:10).

Our academy serves communities right across the city of Leeds and our students come from all over the city to receive an education in which we all work together to challenge them academically, support them pastorally and help them develop socially and spiritually. "Abbey Grange has a Christian Ethos" was how Ofsted described us in their visit in 2022 and this safe, caring, Christian environment underpins absolutely everything we do ensuring we all continually strive for excellence and work to prepare students, not only for success whilst at school but sustain them in life after school. Our students flourish in an environment which is welcoming, caring, calm, disciplined, inspiring and powerful.

The academy is incredibly diverse with over 70 different home languages spoken and our students come from over 70 different primary schools. Families send their children to Abbey Grange from all over the City and further afield for our unique ethos of inclusivity and our celebration of diversity.

Our goal is to become an outstanding Academy that delivers on our mission - In Partnership to 'Educate, Nurture and Empower' and we are well on our way to achieving this. Ofsted graded us a 'good' school in March 2022 and we celebrated fantastic GCSE results. 85.4% of our students achieving 9-4 in English and Maths, our highest ever outcome. The Progress 8 score of +0.63 is well above average and highlights outstanding results across the academy. The academy has an incredibly popular Sixth Form with over 400 students studying a wide range of A Levels and BTECs. The destinations data for Sixth Form students reflects the high aspirations we have for our students and the aspirations of our families and students themselves.

The academy seeks to attract positive, ambitious and hard-working staff who have high expectations for student progress, attainment, behaviour and character. By following Jesus' call to life in all its fullness, we recruit positive, enthusiastic, passionate caring staff who bring to life the lessons they teach.

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." (Peter 4:10)

We seek out staff who nurture students by preparing them for life and being there to help them pick themselves up when they fall and by empowering them to reach for the stars by gaining outstanding qualifications and aspiring to be the best version of themselves that they can be. Ofsted tells us that our students "enjoy" school and crucially that they "want to come to school". This is reflected in our fantastic rates of attendance. This is because students are able to focus on work without disruption due to our high expectations for behaviour but also because there is a calm, positive learning atmosphere in classrooms. We encourage students to learn to be intolerant of intolerance and to behaviour in an exemplary way inside and outside the academy.

**"Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth."
(John 3:18)**

We ensure our students are great citizens and able to flourish in all aspects of life spiritually, morally and socially. Abbey Character is built through exemplary lessons, positive relationships and a broad extra-curricular and an enrichment programme is in place so that students can get out of their comfort zone and any talents can be nurtured so students achieve their full potential whatever their talent may be – or discover new talents they never knew they've be able to do.

"Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more" (Matthew 25:20)

Finally, Abbey Grange is a safe space for all our students where bullying is rare. Our Ofsted report earlier this year told us the "no stone is left unturned in order to keep pupils safe and well". Again, through our Christian vision to build character through innovative and imaginative practice we are able to work with students when their conduct does not meet our expectations through fair and balanced sanctions but, crucially, the essential restorative practice is deployed afterwards to help those students transform their lives and become better versions of themselves.

If you are considering sending your child, or applying for a position at Abbey Grange, we welcome a diverse community.

Simon Prinsep
Principal



Partnership

We work as active partners with primary and secondary schools both formally as an academy within Abbey Multi Academy Trust (MAT) and informally with universities, local and national businesses, the Diocese and local community.

Together, we develop and share good practice and resources to enhance opportunities for learning to empower our young people with the belief that they can have a positive impact on their own life and the lives of others.

Further afield, we value our links with schools in Ethiopia, India, China and Europe. We have achieved International School Status and won a Diana Award for our work to promote global rights.

Fundraising activities and volunteering opportunities in support of local, national and international charities demonstrate faith in action as we seek to develop generosity in our students.



Culture, Ethos & Values

Abbey Grange C of E Academy is a successful, caring and happy school located in the north-west of the city of Leeds. Our 1600 students come from all over Leeds, the majority staying on to our thriving Sixth Form. Whatever their age, our ethos remains the same:

'In partnership to Educate, Nurture & Empower'

This is underpinned by our Christian vision.

Our Christian Vision

We embrace Jesus' call to life in all its fullness. As a diverse community, we celebrate difference and build character through innovative and imaginative practice that seeks to transform lives. Enabling everyone to flourish means finding identity, purpose and value in God as we journey together.

'My purpose is to give life in all its fullness.'
John 10 v 10

An Outstanding Church Academy

The Christian foundation of the Academy is very important to us. Many of our students come from families who worship regularly, and we aim to provide an environment where we can work with parents to help our students grow spiritually. Collective worship includes regular assemblies and time in tutor groups to reflect on the theme of the week, services of Holy Communion attended by all students, which mark key festivals in the church calendar, and form assemblies to develop our worshipping life.

Here are some of the things that our last SIAMS inspection (2016) said about us. (SIAMS is the organisation which carries out inspections of Anglican and Methodist schools, to judge their effectiveness as church schools.)

- The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Abbey Grange Church of England Academy as a Church of England school are outstanding.
- The academy's mission statement 'In partnership, to educate, nurture, empower' clearly underpins decisions that are made and the manner in which they are implemented. It is widely known and understood.
- Christian values are promoted and lived throughout the academy. They are the focus for collective worship and as a result are becoming deeply embedded in the culture of the academy.
- The exceptionally single-minded approach of governors, senior leaders and all staff to ensure that Abbey Grange is a rich, diverse and highly effective church school and a happy place for students to learn

Educate

Our dedicated staff offer an inclusive education to meet the individual needs and abilities of each student and enables them to achieve their best. We provide a broad and balanced curriculum with an emphasis on traditional academic subjects. Enterprise activities such as Dragons' Den-style events, the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, internships, the Archbishop's Young Leaders Award and a wide range of extra-curricular activities to enrich our students' interests and experiences.

Students in Years 7, 8 & 9 (Key Stage 3) follow the National Curriculum, and then go on to study for their GCSE or equivalent exams in Years 10 & 11.

Education isn't limited to the classroom and our field trips provide a real depth of learning. Trips have included Italy, France & USA as well as volunteer work in India and Africa. As an Abbey Grange student you'll have the chance to take part in these amazing experiences.

Creativity is highly encouraged and our productions, concerts and exhibitions have proven extremely popular. You'll have the opportunity to express yourself artistically and showcase your ability, building your confidence and putting your learning into practice. Don't worry if you don't want to be in the spotlight; there are plenty of opportunities to put your technical skills to work behind the scenes too.



Our Trust

At Abbey Multi Academy Trust we are passionate about making a difference to the lives of all our children. They are at the heart of everything we do and we strive to inspire learners and change their lives as a result of our educational provision. We want all our schools to be the best they can be and for each child and young person to discover the skills, abilities, talents and interests that lie within them as well as giving them safety, security and the skills they will need to be active, responsible citizens and happy, caring adults in the future.

At Abbey Multi Academy Trust we are committed to making a difference to the lives of the children and young people within our academies. We aim to provide an environment which is welcoming, caring, calm, disciplined and purposeful and will stretch our young people academically, support them pastorally and help them develop socially and spiritually.

We are committed to raising the skills base across our communities by ensuring a focus on quality, encouraging innovation and strengthening the ethos of the academies as distinctive schools. The framework will strive to maintain academies which will retain their own independent culture and ethos whilst operating within a strategic partnership to improve quality, share best practice and operate effectively and efficiently.

The primary and secondary schools within Abbey Multi Academy Trust are prepared to truly collaborate. The schools have a desire to question, change and innovate to ensure that what they provide enables our children to become successful learners, confident individuals and responsible citizens.

We work as active partners both formally, as part of our growing Multi Academy Trust and informally, in the collaborative work we do with the Diocese, local universities, local and national business and our local community.



Helen Pratten & Catherine Garrett
Co-Chief Executive Officers, Abbey MAT



Nurture

Our faith, extended family of learners, shared aims and values shape and guide us to achieve excellence in all areas of life, both inside and outside the classroom.

Our Pastoral system ensures that every student feels safe and cared for within a welcoming, orderly and positive learning environment.

We ensure that, as a child of God, each student also feels valued. Our Christian ethos teaches students the values of truth, justice, compassion, generosity, fellowship, respect and responsibility and we nurture in our students a deeper understanding of human society and their place in it.

Dynamic teaching, coupled with our support, results in happy students who are fulfilled. At Abbey Grange we encourage and inspire everyone in our vibrant learning community to make a commitment.

"The Academy's caring atmosphere and emphasis on individual achievement has enabled my son to thrive."
Parent



Pupils make strong progress. There are detailed curriculum plans in place for each subject, which highlight the sequence by which pupils learn important knowledge. Curriculum leaders have identified the 'golden nuggets' of knowledge that teachers need to stress the most. Teachers emphasise this knowledge regularly, so that pupils can remember it. Lessons usually start with an activity for pupils to recap on content they have learned previously. There is also time in lessons for pupils to work on written tasks independently, with instant feedback from their teacher afterwards

OFSTED 2022



Empower

Excellent results at A Level ensure that Post 16 education at Abbey Grange continues to go from strength to strength, while first-class facilities and rich technology resources equip our young people to become independent learners.

Sixth Form students can choose from a wide range of courses, while a comprehensive programme of careers education and guidance help them to consider their next step. Where appropriate, students are encouraged to aim higher, with many going on to read subjects such as engineering, medicine, law and theology at the Russell Group of universities including Oxford and Cambridge.

Students in all year groups are encouraged to play an active role in the life of the Academy. A wide variety of leadership opportunities and initiatives such as Student Voice and peer tutoring, provide opportunities for our young people to have their say, giving them an increased sense of community and responsibility.

Make the leap to Abbey Grange and, together, we'll fulfil our mission to work In Partnership to Educate, Nurture and Empower.





"The current welfare and future life chances of the students drives the decisions that are made & leads to outstanding outcomes for them."

SIAMS

Further Information

Thank you for considering Abbey Grange C of E Academy for your child. Please feel free to have a look at our website for further information about us including features such as:

- A tour of our facilities
- Details of our Curriculum
- Newsletters of what has been going on in our community
- A New Starter Information booklet given to our new starters for September
- Our Admission Arrangements

Also, please check our social media channels for view some of the activities and events that our students have been involved with recently.

Our website can be found using the below QR Code.



If you have any questions about the school, our facilities and offerings for your child, please feel free to get in touch with us.



Your Notes

Please use this space to make notes or write questions you might have for us.



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