



I am Groviaan

Ages 2-92

I am the very best of me...

I am every teacher who has inspired me.
I am every lesson that has opened
my eyes. I am every maths problem
I have solved. I am every book that
has captivated me. I am every science
experiment that has surprised me.
I am every sports tour that has
motivated me. I am every drama class
that has transformed me. I am more
than just academic. I am everything
I want to be. I am prepared. I am
gracious and generous. I am resourceful
and resilient. I am ambitious and
committed. I am understood. I am my
unlocked potential. I am an individual,
yet I am part of something incredible.

I am Grovian.

i am
the very best of me



Making each individual the best version of themselves they can be.

At Woodhouse Grove, we appreciate that every child is an individual with their own unique personality, talents and skills; and it is this individuality that we nurture at all stages of their education.

A child's potential could lie anywhere – so we ensure that every pupil is exposed to a huge array of opportunities and experiences. We then take pride in identifying and honing their strengths to make the most of their natural abilities, while working hard to develop areas that need improvement. This approach sees each and every Grovian grow into the very best version of themselves they can be.

*James Lockwood,
Woodhouse Grove School
Headmaster*



Identifying uniqueness

Taking the time to understand a child is the most important aspect of unlocking their potential. With just over 750 pupils in our Senior School, getting to know them is easy and we learn how best to motivate and inspire each individual. We believe that this level of insight is the only way to ensure we play to every pupil's strengths.

Understanding the
individual

An environment where education shines

The environment in which a child learns is just as important as what they learn. We have worked hard to create a community where pupils can come together, where they are encouraged to flourish, where they feel comfortable, confident, stimulated and, most of all, happy.

Because we are a day and boarding school, our day doesn't finish at 4 o'clock and friendships develop that bridge the gap between different age groups, further strengthening the school community.

A place to

flourish



Learning

through a full education

Achieving the perfect balance

We believe that unlocking the potential in every pupil is only possible when you provide them with a full and rounded education. Of course, academia remains at the heart of that, but we never underestimate the importance of sports, music or the arts, and the enrichment that these pursuits can bring to a child's life.

A Grovian is...

**Inquisitive
& Curious**

**Enterprising
& Resourceful**

Kind & Generous

**Honourable
& Respectful**

**Committed
& Resilient**

What it means to be a Grovian

Our approach to ensuring each child becomes a confident, well-rounded young adult is not exclusively founded on providing an excellent education.

Our Grovian Values are the foundation for each pupil's development and every child carries these forward for the rest of their life.

We asked some of our current students to explain what being a Grovian means to them. Read on to discover what they had to say.



My parents, especially my dad, inspire me.

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Yesterday I played for the U16s in a Rugby Sevens Tournament. I was excited and scared at the same time – but it was good to play with the year above. And we won!

In winter, I do cross country and play rugby. In the summer, I have athletics. At Woodhouse Grove, even from Year 7, there are so many things you can be involved in. I am really excited for my Duke of Edinburgh expedition this year.

I really like the sciences – and I’m also interested in Geography and PE. Hopefully I’d like to pursue Biology or Chemistry when I am older.

I am passionate about my faith as a Christian and about sport. Out of school, I take part in athletics clubs and I like to spend time with my family. After being at school all day, it is nice to relax at home.

To relax, I listen to music. If I’m doing sport, I like Trap – it’s a mixture between Rap and Hip Hop. It’s less about the vocals and more about the tune. As a Christian, I like to pray with my family.

My dad always tells me to be humble and keep reflecting on what I can improve on. He tells me not to settle but to find ways to progress. This has really helped me at school and in my sport. My parents, especially my dad, inspire me. He is always there to guide me and push me, which I am very grateful for. I may not like it sometimes – but it is very beneficial to me.

With my friends, I don’t really care what we are doing, as long as I am with them. I enjoy just being around them.

Ayomide, Year 10 The Grove

I really like to act and do drama because I like making people laugh – especially if I feel shy in real life and then, when I do drama, I can express myself. I play Miss Darbus in the school play, High School Musical. It’s one of the main parts. She’s a teacher that’s a bit bonkers and crazy and she’s weird and wonderful.

I want to make my dad proud and get far in life. I really like to help my mum and dad and they definitely inspire me. Also, one of my Aunties – I call her Phuppi – she really inspires me. She helps me with whatever I want to do. For example, if I want to be a teacher or if I want to be a doctor or an actress, she’s always going to be there for me and help me. I really like to help people. I’d like to be a doctor when I’m older because that way I can see people smile.

I sometimes have a tiny bit of anxiety. When I’m at home I like to listen to a type of meditation and I like to meditate. The best advice I’ve been given is don’t just stop and do what someone else wants you to do. Go for something that you want to do, that you are passionate about and then that will get you far. I try to follow this advice.

I made lots of new friends when I joined Year 7 and my twin brother is here with me as well. I like it that my brother is here. He is more academic but more shy than me. He is really clever at Maths – people call him The Walking Calculator. He’s really good at Sciences and at English. He’s definitely going to make my dad proud and become a doctor.

If you’re in Year 7 and you can’t find your class, this is what I did at the beginning of the year. I couldn’t find History so I just asked a random Year 9 and he followed me all the way up to History and then went all the way back down to his class. Everyone’s really kind and helpful and you don’t have to be afraid to ask anyone from any year to help because they always will. The teachers are really kind – sometimes they have to be a little bit strict – but at the same time they are really kind and caring.

When I am older, I don’t mind if I don’t get a big role, but I would like to have some role in the school. At Brontë I was a Prefect and at Woodhouse I’d also like to be one of those because I just really like this school and I feel like that would be important to me and I would feel like I am special – and I know that I am.

Amber, Year 7 The Grove

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I went from never having touched a rugby ball in Year 7 to representing the county and playing in the first team.



I love sports, I play rugby, swim and enjoy going to the gym. In summer I play tennis. In fact, I have the Grove to thank for my love of rugby and tennis. Ever since joining in Year 7 I have been encouraged to participate in numerous sports and supported along the way. I went from never having touched a rugby ball in Year 7 to representing the county and playing in the first team. I have also competed in swimming for Leeds and at County level and have been part of numerous other teams including triathlon, cross country running, and more.

The Grove is good like that - there are so many opportunities in both sports and academics that there really is something for everyone. Taking part in competitive sport has taught me team-spirit, resilience and the value of pushing myself to be the very best version of myself I can be.

I am studying maths, further maths and physics. I also did the Certificate of Financial Studies and German A-level last year – but my parents are German, so that one was pretty straight forward! I'm applying to read Engineering at university and my ultimate aim is to help solve the world's energy problems and start my own business.

An important lesson I have learnt at the Grove is to go the extra mile; that when you complete a task, there is always some way to keep going and make it better. All the little roles that you can take on at school help build confidence - things like being a Prefect and having to make speeches in front of the class. These things have helped me grow in character.

Through my time at the Grove, I have also been encouraged to take on numerous leadership roles, lower down the school as both Junior and Intermediate House Captain and now as Head Boy and Swim Captain. I have been pushed out of my comfort zone presenting to prospective parents and students, chairing the School Council and being more involved in the decision-making processes in school. I am learning a lot of new skills that I expect to come in useful in later life.

One of the best things about being at the Grove is the feeling of belonging to a community. The school is a really good size for this, with enough students to have very competitive classes but small enough so that you know everyone by name. It really does feel like a big family. I plan on keeping in touch with many of the friends I have made here when I leave.

This summer I'll be spending a few weeks in Germany teaching windsurfing, going on holiday to Greece with a couple of friends from school and catching my breath after the exams!

My six years at Woodhouse Grove School have been truly transformative and have given me opportunities beyond my expectations to grow, not just academically, but also on the sports field and as an individual. Being a Grovian has taught me determination, kindness and respectfulness, and given me the courage and confidence in my abilities needed to succeed in school and beyond.

Charlie, Year 13 The Grove

Building the confidence to succeed

Confidence for a life beyond education

Instilling confidence in each individual child through an education that is rich and diverse, in an inspiring environment where they are encouraged to excel and given the support to develop, enables our pupils to grow into the very best version of themselves that they can be.

We hope that every one of our pupils leaves with the confidence and resilience to continue to succeed in their life beyond Woodhouse Grove.

From 2 to 92. Grovians carry our values with them throughout the rest of their lives.



Becky Ives, Reporter and Presenter

Becky works in Sports Broadcasting as a TV Presenter, working for various companies such as BT Sport and Premier League across a range of sports – but with the main focus on football.

Following The Grove, Becky studied for 2 years at the University of Teesside, before a further 3 years at Italia Conti Academy of Theatre Arts in London. After this, some serious hustle, networking and making the most of opportunities got her to where she is today!

“Sport has always been my passion and I feel lucky that The Grove gave me the opportunity to try a wide range of sports



Tom Bould, Squadron Leader

Tom joined Brontë House in 1988 and left Woodhouse Grove in 2000. After leaving The Grove, Tom studied Aerospace Engineering at Manchester University and completed his elementary flight training as a member of Manchester and Salford University Air Squadron. In 2005, he joined the Royal Air Force, where he was streamed to operate fast-jets. He flew the Typhoon – the RAF’s multi-role combat aircraft – and during his front line tour had several deployments to the Falkland Islands as well as exercises in Malaysia and the United Arab Emirates.



Dr Kulwant Johal, Managing Director, Piccadilly Properties

After leaving Woodhouse Grove, Kulwant studied Polymer Chemistry at Lancaster University and graduated with a 2.1 in 1992. He then completed his PhD at the Interdisciplinary Research Centre (IRC) in Polymer Science and Technology at the Universities of Bradford, Leeds and Durham sponsored by the Chemical giant, ICI.

Kulwant then changed career and trained as a Chartered Accountant with Price Waterhouse and BKR Haines Watts. In 2000, he joined the family businesses and has worked with Samsung and Panasonic in the retail business, eventually

Thanks to the strong community and exceptional environment of Woodhouse Grove, even after our pupils step out of our doors for the last time, the knowledge, values, self-confidence and life-long friendships they have forged here will never leave them.

that aren’t always easily accessible to all. School Ski Trips, international mountaineering expeditions and D of E courses gave me a wealth of experience and taught me a lot about commitment and determination!

I also regularly played sport at school to a high level and so gained an understanding of how competitive sport works. I was 1st team Netball Captain and also Captain of the Swimming Team and learnt some invaluable lessons about leadership, communication and teamwork – which I still utilise today.

Woodhouse Grove gave me the foundations to turn my passion into a job. I feel incredibly lucky to spend my days with top level athletes, pundits and fellow broadcasters talking about sport... all of which started at The Grove.”

Tom was accepted as a member of the Red Arrows display team in 2015. He has recently been promoted to Squadron Leader and selected to be Red 1. As Red 1, he is primarily responsible for all aspects of the display, from running the training programme and creating and choreographing a new 20-minute aerobatic show, to leading the nine-aircraft.

“The education I received from The Grove was more than just about academic success. It gave me the self-belief to challenge myself and the resilience required to achieve my ambitions. My time at The Grove and the all round education gave me the tools I needed to be part of a high performance team; including the confidence and humility to lead it.”

settling on Property Development with Piccadilly Properties Ltd which specialises in transforming Industrial Heritage and Grade II listed buildings.

“The Grove was life changing for me and instilled in me a sense of self and helped me fulfil the aspirations that my parents had for me when they sent me as the first Johal back in 1984. The Grove has always had great teachers, Mrs Morris and Mr Driver encouraged and inspired me that anything was possible. The moral compass, resilience and knowledge I gained, along with the problem solving skills have stood me well in my career. These life skills are what the Grove excels in, with a combination of hard work and fun!”



Emma Humphreys, Law - Principal Associate

Emma left the Grove in 2006 and took a Gap year before starting her degree in Law (with Criminology) at the University of Manchester. During this time she lived and worked in Bangkok, where she enjoyed playing in the Bangkok Netball League and joined an amateur dramatic company – two loves instilled during her time at The Grove. She also travelled widely during her holidays. Emma graduated in 2010 and started a two year training contract to become a solicitor a year later, after first completing her post-grad qualification, the Legal Practice Course (LPC). Once qualified, she moved to Eversheds Sutherland in 2013, specialising in employment law, labour and business immigration. She has been fortunate enough to be involved in a number of high profile and reported cases for household names. Emma now works in London as a Principal Associate – with aspirations of partnership!



Andrew Smith, Lord Mayor of Westminster

After leaving The Grove Andrew studied at the University of St Andrew’s, followed by a Masters at the University of Aberystwyth.

After graduation he started working for the Conservative Research Department, alongside another Old Grovian and A level history classmate Mathew Gulick, now a leading QC. After a spell working for a member of the then Conservative Shadow Cabinet in Parliament, Andrew then moved into public affairs consultancy and now works for the international PR firm Weber Shandwick as a Senior Vice-President and the Head of their Public Affairs practice

“I am so thankful to the Grove for all it has given me. It goes without saying that the excellent education I received stood me in good stead at university and my career. I look back with such fondness at my A-level classes in particular and how engaging, interesting and fun they were. That was predominantly down to the teachers – who are clearly passionate about their subjects and their students. However, the Grove is much more than this. It is not just a school that teaches students how to pass exams, but also develops well-rounded individuals who learn the importance of working as a team, treating people with dignity and respect and recognising that we all have something to offer. The opportunities I received have instilled a desire in me to do my best and be the best I can – whether in the exam room, on the netball court, on stage, personally or professionally. The Grove taught me how to tackle challenges and seize opportunities with the same enthusiasm and has given me life-long friendships which I will treasure forever.”

