

I am Grovian

Ages 2-97

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.



iam

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

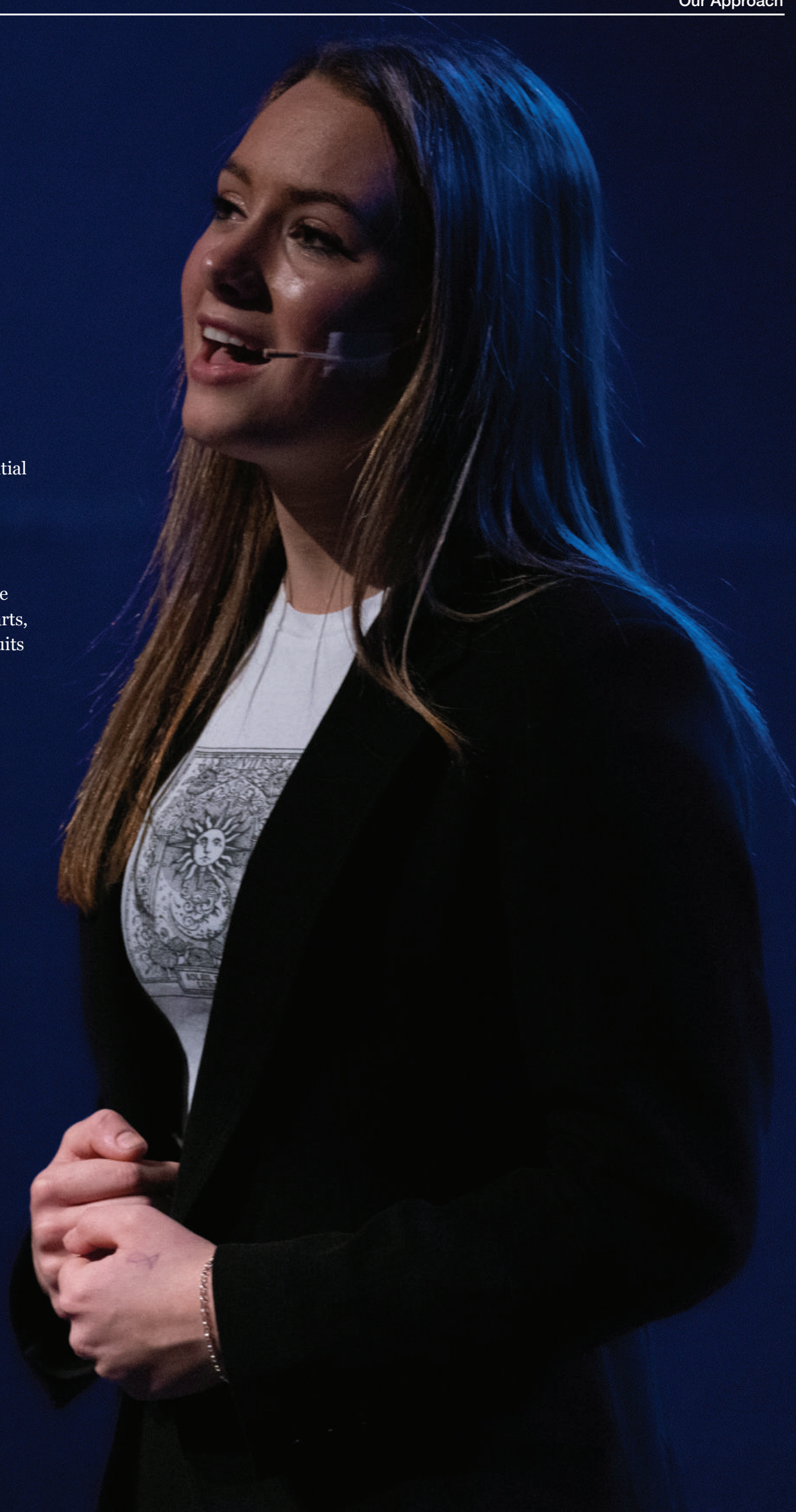
flourish

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.



*Being around the right
people has helped me to
endure difficult times.*

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I have lived in Leeds my whole life with my parents and my younger sister, who also goes to Woodhouse Grove. I love spending time with them anywhere, especially through family holidays.

I am passionate about my personal development in sport, learning and in my faith as a Christian. These things are important to me.

Right now, I am focusing on playing for the school's 1st XV rugby team, so I only go to training or gym club after school. But in the past, I have taken part in the athletics/cross-country club, the Green Grove Club for my Duke of Edinburgh Award and Enterprise Club.

In terms of sport, my ambition is to compete at the highest level I am capable of. Thanks to rugby training through school and athletics at my club, I currently compete at a good level in these sports. It would be a huge achievement for me if I could make it somewhere with one of these sports.

I am studying maths, French, biology and finance. Even though it is a difficult subject to grasp, I would say that I enjoy French the most, since you not only learn how to read and write the language, but you also get to learn more about important events and issues in French-speaking countries across the world. I am aiming to go to university to study economics/finance/accounting with French. I want to use these skills to work in the financial industry and eventually become an entrepreneur.

Recently, I've been learning how to cook with my mum before I go to university. I also enjoy spending time by myself, taking my mind off school or sport, by watching Netflix or going on long walks/bike rides.

Seeing my classmates and slightly older pupils starting to progress and achieve greater things, inspires me to follow them in their footsteps. Luckily for me, most of my closest friends are my rugby teammates, so I can enjoy spending time with them in a competitive environment. But honestly, I would have a good time with my friends doing anything.

A happy memory from my time at The Grove is when I went to Cornwall for a few days with the rest of the team for the National Schools Cross-country Finals in Year 10. Even though the weather during the race was terrible, and I don't remember running very well, I had such a great time by the coast, enjoying good food with a group of people I don't normally spend a lot of time with, making it very memorable.

My dad is always giving me good advice to remind me of how privileged I am to be going to such a good school. Recently, I have been working hard to maintain good grades. I would say that through being patient, consistent and more disciplined with how I spend my time, I have been able to move in the right direction. My dad has always told me that I shouldn't take anything for granted, and that I must appreciate and use the opportunities I have been given if I want to progress.

Ayomide, Year 12 The Grove

I've got a little sister who's coming to The Grove in September. She's really looking forward to it and I'm looking forward to having her here. It'll be nice to see her around!

I love playing netball. I was first introduced to netball in Year 7. My mum has been playing netball for thirty years now, so I did have a little bit of exposure to it before I came to The Grove but the Grove's really got me into it. Now I've progressed and I'm in the Rhinos Pathway and West Yorkshire Pathway and I'm in the YMCA first team.

I love how quick netball is. A lot of other sports are very stop-start, with netball it's just quick and I love the pace of it. I also just love defending, I love the adrenalin rush when I get an interception. I just think it's a really great sport. I also play cricket for school. I don't know if I would have time to pursue it outside but it is a really great sport. I would love to go and watch one of the T20 matches.

I'm excited to do Business, which is a new subject I'm taking as one of my GCSEs. I want to have my own business when I'm older. I want to support myself. I'm very influenced by my parents. My mum's got her own business and my dad is successful in the business he works for. That's what I want to be like when I'm older.

I have my options open for when I leave The Grove. I've already started saving for maybe doing a gap year. I would really love to travel the world. I'm just all about learning about new cultures, new ideas – and travelling the world, that would be a dream. If it's where my career path takes me, I do want to go to university but I don't know what I want to be. If, by the end of Sixth Form, I've got a rough idea of what I want to do and doing an apprenticeship would suit that better, then that's what I'll do.

I've got a really good group of friends and they'll always back me up, always support me. And the support I have at The Grove is really good - there are a few teachers that I'm closer to. So, I do have a lot of people I can go to if I have a problem. My parents are the biggest support I have though. I can always talk things through with them. They're very reasonable. They know that they can't just tell me it's all going to be ok because, you know, life is up and down. It's more that if I'm knocked down, I've got to get back up again and just be resilient.

I know I've been lucky; I've been lucky enough to come to The Grove. It's not taking things for granted. My mum's very big on that; being grateful for the opportunities I have, for where I am, for how I've progressed. But I know that success isn't just luck, it's earned and I'm the type of person who's willing to put in the hard work to get what I want.

I've got lots of happy memories from my time at The Grove. But a recent one is the Netball Awards, where I was awarded the Eileen Mollard Shield. That was a really big thing for me. The Shield is about how you support people on and off the court. So, it was really nice to receive because it reassured me that, even though I might not play every match, I still have a good impact on people. And that's what I love because I love to make other people happy.

Abigail, Year 9 The Grove

*I'm the type of person
who's willing to put in
the hard work to get
what I want.*

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*I am passionate about
doing well at school and
being creative.*

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I enjoy reading, taking my dog for a walk, and doing art. I am also interested in science, especially topics such as sustainable energy and space exploration.

I have a fear of heights but my time at The Grove has given me a chance to overcome my fears by regularly attending climbing club.

I am passionate about doing well at school and being creative. I have taken up the role of Form Prefect, which has taught me a great deal about responsibility. As for the very difficult question of favourite school subjects, I would have to say art, physics and maths are my favourites, although I also really enjoy English and computing. For the future, I am keeping my options open as I am still early in my school journey and do not know where it will take me, but right now I can see myself going down the path of data scientist or a career in product design.

Outside of school, I play tennis at Leeds Trinity University and also enjoy it in our games sessions. I attend fencing club, which is something I never imagined doing prior to joining The Grove. However, I have really enjoyed it so far and have even competed in tournaments! My creative side loves the weekly Grove Dungeons & Dragons and Warhammer Clubs, where I play both with and against my friends. The teachers running the clubs help give it extra flare and stretch everyone's imagination. Through Stage Tech Club, I help with the school productions as part of the stage crew. Even though I am not the sportiest person, at The Grove, I have managed to find many extra-curricular activities that suit me and I really enjoy.

One of the first pieces of advice I received when I first joined Woodhouse Grove was "get stuck in!" This has been a great motto and helped me to try new subjects, clubs and meet new people. I have great memories from the Year 7 residential to Dorset and from helping out with the Years 7 & 8 Spotlight Show. I look forward to creating more fun memories as I progress through the school...

Jacob, Year 8 The Grove

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.

Building the
confidence
to succeed





From 2 to 97. 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

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 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.

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.”



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

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 Clarke, Law - Partner

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 is now a Partner, working in London.

“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.”



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

in London, advising a range of multinational businesses on their relationships with policymakers and regulators. Andrew also served as Councillor in the City of Westminster for 13 years, serving as a member of the council’s cabinet and, between 2021 and 2022, Lord Mayor of the City.

“I owe a lot to Woodhouse Grove. As a dyslexic it gave me the support I needed to succeed academically, but probably, most importantly, it helped to foster and direct my thirst for knowledge. I was lucky to have some inspiring teachers in history and religious studies and through studying history to grow my interest in politics and public service. Over the years, I have also appreciated the moral grounding that both study and worship at The Grove instilled in me”.

