

Acklam Grange School

Preparing our students for life in modern Britain

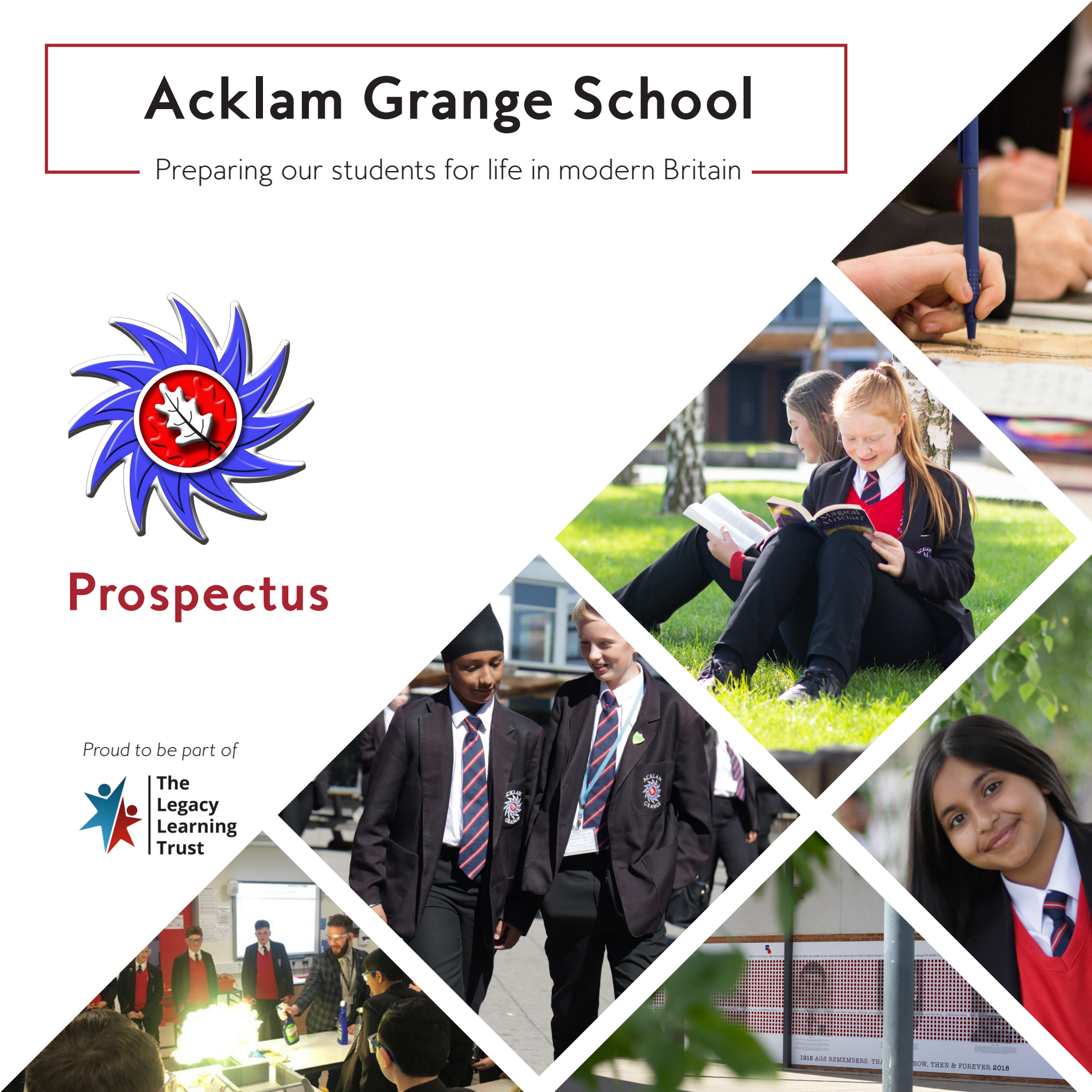


Prospectus

Proud to be part of



The
Legacy
Learning
Trust





Welcome from the Headteacher

I am honoured to welcome you to Acklam Grange School, “a good school with outstanding features”. As you will gather from this prospectus, and any visits you choose to make, our students’ academic progress and personal development, welfare and safety are a continual focus for all staff and at the heart of all that we do.

At Acklam Grange School we ensure that all students receive an inclusive education through a broad and balanced curriculum and are well prepared for life in modern Britain through:

- High aspirations for all
- Excellent teaching
- Excellent student behaviour
- Outstanding personal development and welfare
- Rigorous safeguarding
- AGS Pride
- ARC Services
- Excellent community cohesion and local community groups
- Ensuring ‘no child ever gets left behind’
- The Respect Agenda

I have high expectations of students and staff alike and I am confident that Acklam Grange School will continue to be a successful, high performing school across both Teesside and the country, through keeping our traditional family values at the centre of everything we do.

Michael Laidler, Headteacher



The Legacy Learning Trust

‘Placing learners and learning at the heart of all that we do’.

The Legacy Learning Trust family is the proud home to Linthorpe Community Primary School and Acklam Grange School and is a growing MAT for primary and secondary schools. Other schools, both secondary and primary may join in the future.

We pride ourselves on:

- Strong relationships
- High expectations and aspirations
- Equality and equity
- Celebrating diversity

All decision making is underpinned by our TLLT values, which are lived out as a golden thread through the ethos of and work in our schools. This can be seen in:

- A vibrant, broad and balanced curriculum for all learners
- Raising aspirations and overcoming barriers to learning
- The way in which we value all staff and their contribution to school life
- The provision of endless opportunities beyond the school day
- A truly inclusive community where individuals thrive
- Excellent outcomes which prepare learners for the next stage in their journey

Why Acklam Grange School?

Acklam Grange is a comprehensive and inclusive school in Middlesbrough with a focus on learning for all the family. A big school with a big heart, our priority is our students' achievement, empowering every child to exceed expectations and be the best that they can be. We have aspirational aims for academic excellence for our students, creating choices for them in their future career paths. We aim to develop balanced young people who share our school values.

We focus on student achievement, empowering every child to meet their full potential, whilst also giving all students the opportunity to develop as well rounded individuals. Our curriculum aims to incorporate our five PRIDE characteristics which are inclusive to everything we do. We aim to develop students' perseverance, respect, initiative, direction and expression to help them be the best version of themselves. Through our AGS PRIDE values and our wide range of curricular and extra-curricular experiences, Acklam Grange School prepares students for life in modern Britain.

There are almost 300 students in each year group. Our highly skilled and professional team of teachers and support staff ensure that the pastoral care of every individual child is our top priority, to support and promote achievement for all.





Our Aims and Ethos

Preparing our students for life in modern Britain #AGSPride

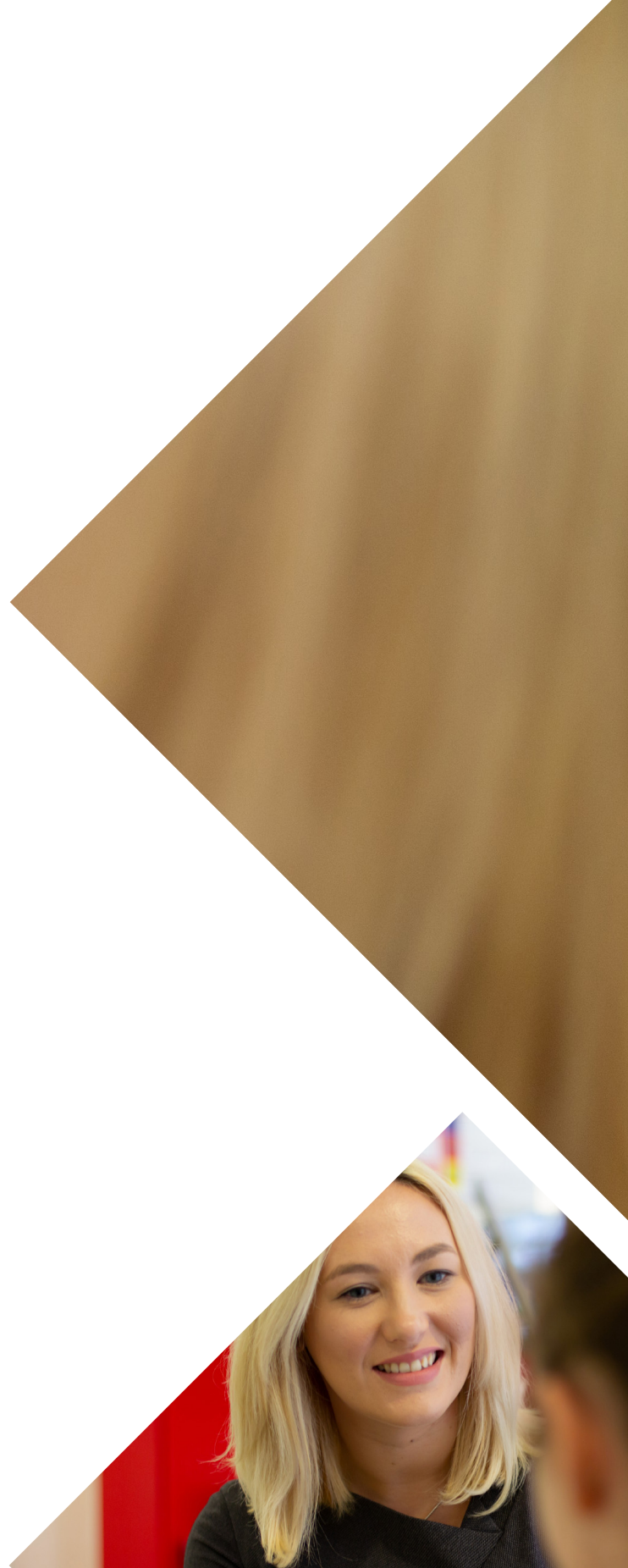
Students at Acklam Grange have the right to a broad, balanced and relevant education, according to their needs. We aim to offer them the best opportunity to achieve their full potential in every way. Staff, with the help of all stakeholders, create the circumstances by which this happens. Our school seeks to meet the needs of everyone in our community. Equally, everyone is expected to support the needs of our community. It is the right of every individual at Acklam Grange to do these things without being hindered by others.

Pastoral Care and Transition

We care for every student as an individual and recognise that every child is different and equally important. Our traditional values stem back through generations of families in our local community and beyond. Focused on family learning, our school is characterised by an ethos of respect for ourselves, each other and the community. Welcoming and friendly, we offer care, guidance and support throughout our proven pastoral family systems. Smooth transition from primary to secondary school is key to a child's success. Our close work with our partner primary schools ensures our already popular and widely recognised transition programme is supportive to both parents and students as they embark on secondary education.

Request a copy of our 'Welcome to our School' brochure from the School Office or scan the QR code below to find out more about:

- Joining our school community
- The pastoral system
- ARC Services
- Rewards
- Our expectations
- Trips, clubs, enhanced-curricular opportunities and event success
- School uniform
- The school day
- Term dates and holidays 2023/2024





PRIDE

AGS Pride are the values on which our education provision is based. We want to develop our students and all stakeholders to demonstrate these values in every aspect of their lives in order to be successful and be the best that they can be. Pride interweaves our pastoral care, curriculum, student rewards and our staff development. Visit our website and follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to find out more. #AGSPride

PERSEVERANCE

Be fearless, embrace challenge and do not give up!

- Don't be afraid of failure
- Challenge Yourself
- Grit (and attendance)*
- Use feedback to improve performance

RESPECT

Show tolerance to all through care, courtesy and consideration.

- Appropriate language and good manners
- Respect yourself, Respect others and Respect the community
- Consider your social footprint
- Planning, preparation and punctuality

INITIATIVE

Be independent, pave your own future, what are you waiting for?

- Make your ideas happen
- Be an independent learner
- Get involved
- Forward thinking

DIRECTION

Use your aspirations to inspire others and lead the way.

- Student leadership
- Understand how to achieve your goals
- Positive attitude
- Collaboration

EXPRESSION

Use your imagination to communicate clearly.

- Communication
- Presentation of work
- Understand your audience
- Body Language

*Request a copy of our “Welcome to our School” brochure from the School Office or scan the QR code to view.



PRIDE



**Outstanding, sustainable
student outcomes 2023**

Curriculum Overview at AGS

We strive to offer a curriculum that not only follows the principles of a broad and balanced curriculum, promoted by the National Curriculum, but also to deliver one that promotes equality for all students regardless of race, gender, sexuality or socio-economic background. Our curriculum provides equity by aiming to support students in overcoming those barriers proven to limit social mobility locally, such as low levels of reading, vocabulary, low self-esteem and low aspirations.

Our curriculum aims to incorporate our five key AGS Pride characteristics which are intrinsic to everything we do. We aim to support and develop our five PRIDE values of Perseverance, Respect, Initiative, Direction and Expression through our curriculum delivery. This is because we want our students to be confident, articulate human beings who have those values, beliefs and skills that we believe will enable them to make a positive difference to themselves, their families and to help them shape a positive society in the future.

Students are allocated to one of four Personalised Learning Curriculum Pathways, each with varying routes, all broad and balanced. Pathways are regularly reviewed to ensure that students are always in a pathway that is bespoke and personalised.





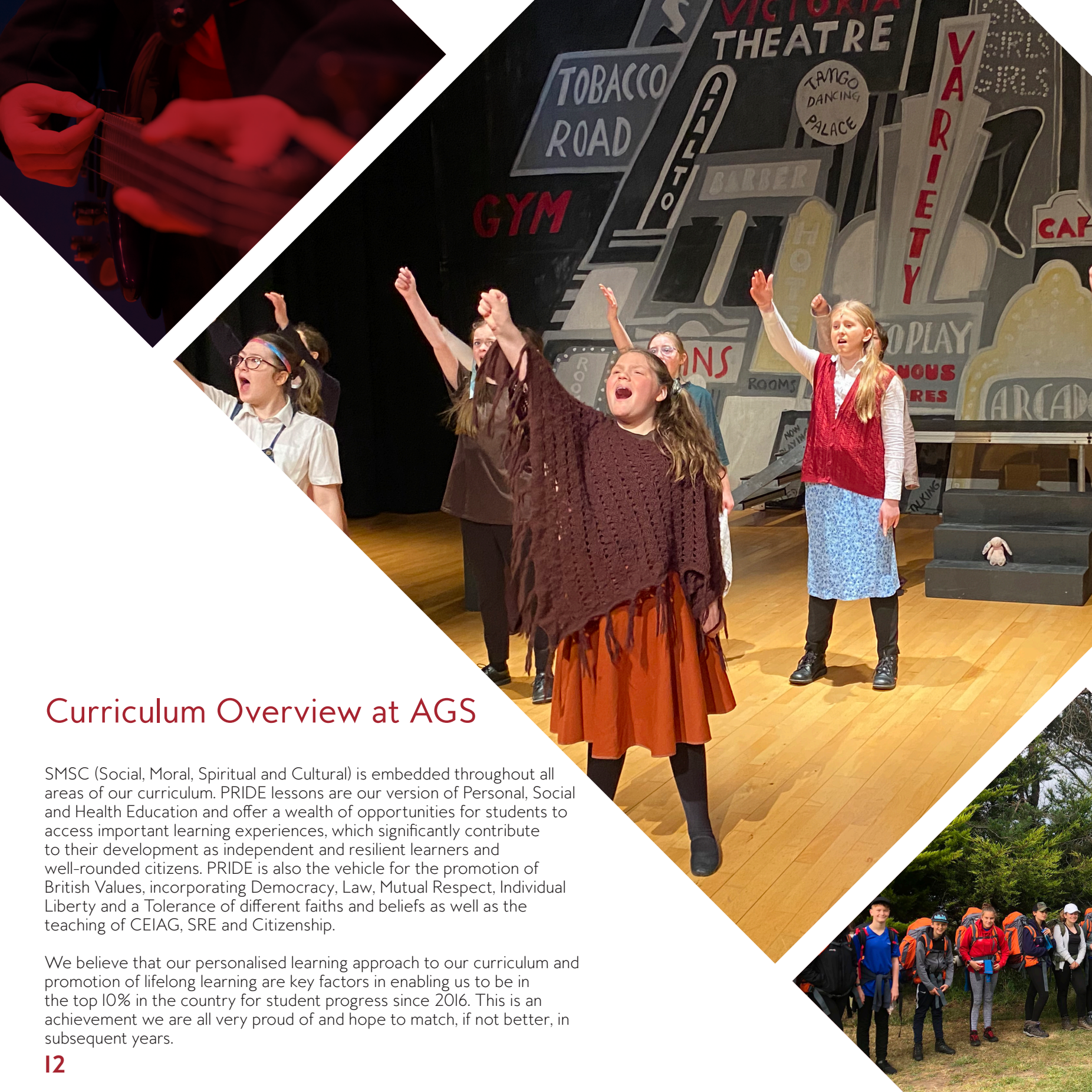
Curriculum aspirations are high with an academic focus characterised by the EBacc. Reading and vocabulary are at the core of our provision so that each child can flourish on their own individual learning journey. Students are supported in making the right choices for their own success with 99% of students securing a place with a Post-16 provider last academic year.



All students follow a carefully planned, sequenced journey which builds on prior learning and prepares them for the rigour of the new more challenging GCSEs and life Post-16.

We offer a layered approach to curriculum choices at every stage of a student's journey, which allows for the length of courses to be personalised to the individual. Our curriculum is constantly reviewed to ensure it continues to meet the needs of our students.





Curriculum Overview at AGS

SMSC (Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural) is embedded throughout all areas of our curriculum. PRIDE lessons are our version of Personal, Social and Health Education and offer a wealth of opportunities for students to access important learning experiences, which significantly contribute to their development as independent and resilient learners and well-rounded citizens. PRIDE is also the vehicle for the promotion of British Values, incorporating Democracy, Law, Mutual Respect, Individual Liberty and a Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs as well as the teaching of CEIAG, SRE and Citizenship.

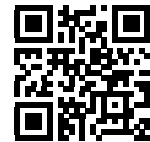
We believe that our personalised learning approach to our curriculum and promotion of lifelong learning are key factors in enabling us to be in the top 10% in the country for student progress since 2016. This is an achievement we are all very proud of and hope to match, if not better, in subsequent years.

Our Enrichment Curriculum

At AGS we are committed to much more than student outcomes. We have an extensive range of enrichment activities to help develop all aspects of our students.

- A huge range of sports teams and clubs
- AGS Enhance and revision clubs
- Peer Mentors
- Combined Cadet force
- Duke of Edinburgh
- AGS Sports Academy
- STEAM
- Peer Reading Club
- Maths Club
- Creative Writing
- Book Club
- Prayer Club
- Choir
- Dance
- Orchestra
- Drama
- Language Club
- Cross Stitch Club
- Chess Club

Scan the QR code to view our
Enhanced Curriculum booklet.



AGS Success Initiative

Our AGS Success initiative equips staff and students with a better understanding of revision to improve achievement for all.

Supporting every child on their own individual journey to success, our aim is to secure progress by challenging students to fulfil their own potential, whatever their starting point might be.

We are preparing students for adult life, for the world of work, to become successful learners, confident individuals and responsible citizens in local and global communities. Driven to continually improve, our dedicated staff constantly seek effective strategies to give every child the best chances to succeed. We pride ourselves on our partnerships, which strengthen our drive for improvement.

We believe that success breeds success and as such, celebrating success and our positive rewards system are key features of our culture.

Visit our website www.acklamgrange.org.uk to find out more about our:

- ARC Services
- Drive to improve numeracy and literacy
- Independent Reading Programme
- Academic Mentoring Programme
- Effective use of Pupil Premium funding
- Culture of celebrating success and positive reward





Sports Academy

The AGS Sports Academy was launched in 2019 when local Olympian and European Gold Medallist Aimee Willmott and Mr Laidler presented students with their Sports Academy branded school tie, t-shirt and jacket.

Sports Academy students receive access to high quality training from specialist sports coaches in first class facilities to improve their skill acquisition, strength and conditioning and knowledge of leading a healthier lifestyle through a bespoke programme. Additionally, the Sports Academy programme will facilitate visits to other inspiring sports facilities around the country to provide our students with a platform to succeed in sport and life in general. We aim to develop students as sports people and more importantly as excellent citizens.

Being humble, demonstrating respect, no arrogance and building resilience are the corner-stone values of this programme. We would expect all Sports Academy students to act as ambassadors inside and out of school.



Combined Cadet Forces (CCF) and Duke of Edinburgh (DofE)

We are delighted to have established an Army section of CCF in 2017, sponsored by the Yorkshire regiment and supported by the Ministry of Defence. This enables us to offer a wealth of opportunities to our students including residential training. The CCF is subsidised and accessible to all. Activities include drill, rifle training, shooting, archery and camping.

Cadets have the opportunity to complete their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) accreditation as part of their CCF registration or they can register for core DofE with the opportunity to work towards Bronze and then Silver Awards.

The DofE awards encourage confidence building, resilience, skills for work and friendship groups. Students will have a brilliant time doing it and will be exposed to some great experiences, which help to carve out a better future. Colleges, universities and employers regard a DofE Award highly, so it will help to open the right doors for students and support their future success.

Creative and Performing Arts Academy

Last year saw the launch of our brand new Creative and Performing Arts Academy, with the help of Capital Radio Host and X Factor contestant, Sam Lavery, who spoke to students about her experience and answered students' questions about the industry.

Students who are part of our CPA Academy have the opportunity to take part in lots of different activities within Drama, Music and Art, including school shows, exhibitions, live lounge and open mic nights. Students work towards Bronze, Silver and Gold awards along the way, being rewarded for their commitment and effort.

We want to give our CPA Academy students the chance to build their confidence through public speaking and performance, as well as giving them the opportunity to express themselves in a creative environment. We work with top professionals in the creative industries and visit leading venues in the country to develop their skills in a variety of art forms.



ARC Services

Individual care, guidance and support

Preventing and removing barriers to learning to ensure our students are healthy, happy and resilient is at the root of everything we do at Acklam Grange School. ARC delivers both universal services and personalised support packages to students before, during and after their time with us. In the increasingly difficult climate of education we want to ensure our school remains a caring and supporting environment which is also a pleasant place to study; ensuring students leave us with the appropriate skills, values, experience and qualifications to succeed in modern Britain.

ARC Services promotes equality and values diversity, acknowledging that all students, regardless of background or ability are likely to require support of varying natures throughout their schooling. The support they require may be academic, social, emotional or behavioural; or indeed a combination of such.

ARC Services aims to:

- Swiftly remove barriers to learning
- Ensure healthy, happy and resilient students
- Coordinate personalised student support packages before, during and beyond their secondary education
- Create a caring and supportive environment
- Promote equality
- Value diversity
- Offer academic, social, emotional and behavioural support



The Key Principles of ARC

Identification - In order for students to receive the appropriate support for their needs, swift and accurate identification of needs is required.

Communication - Staff at all levels require appropriate knowledge about the needs of the students with whom they work to enable effective working relationships and support.

Provision - Students must have access to the best provision for their individual needs. We strive to ensure in-house services are well planned and optimise the skills of our staff. We also work closely with a wide variety of third party, professional services when needs require a more specialist approach.

Respect - All students and their families are entitled to respect, their views taken into account at all levels.

Diversity - Every member of our community is different and deserves recognition for their individuality. We are privileged to have such a wide range of backgrounds, cultures and faiths within our school community and advocate that true inclusion is only possible when such diversity is positively acknowledged and celebrated.

Balance - Students are entitled to a broad and balanced curriculum, although we recognise that to achieve this, additional advice, support and resources may be necessary in order for success within the mainstream curriculum.

Accountability - All teachers are teachers of students with additional needs and/or with SEN, identifying a whole school responsibility for ARC.

Community

With a focus on learning for all the family, we pride ourselves on our rich and varied Acorn Centre community activity programme. Our partnership with Middlesbrough Community Learning Service enhances our already successful provision for local families of all ages. From jujitsu to boot camp, languages to cake decorating, there really is “Something for Everyone”.

Our wider partnerships ensure we are an outward looking school, constantly adapting to the world around us with a fresh and relevant perspective.

Visit our website at www.acklamgrange.org.uk to find out more about our:

- International Community: Meserani, Kashmir and Aurillac
- Achievement Partnerships: Primary Schools, MAP, Partners in PiXL
- Local Community: Local Residents, AGS Family Council, Community Cohesion Group
- Acorn Centre Community Programme: contact Guy Whatmore (Facilities Manager on 01642 850303)





Family Fun Day

Our family event has attracted local crowds for the past six years. This family fun day will continue as a summer event in the future, bringing our local community and school community together. Our family ethos and AGS Pride values permeate the day with an array of exciting activities and events including our well known AGS 5k trail race and 2k fun run. Live music, community stallholders, games and traditional fete attractions make this day a special and enjoyable day for all. We welcome you all to come along, enjoy the fun and see what Acklam Grange School has to offer.



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Proud to be part of

