

Acklam Grange School

Serving our children, families and community by preparing them for life in modern Britain



Welcome to our school

Proud to be part of



The
Legacy
Learning
Trust





Meet the Headteacher

Welcome to Acklam Grange School and, more importantly, to our AGS Family.

We are proud to be a consistently high performing school that is vibrant and packed full of opportunities for your child to grow and develop. At Acklam Grange we have high expectations of all our students and recognise that a personalised approach where no-child gets left behind brings the best out of everyone.

All students follow our Respect Agenda and are encouraged to:

- **Respect themselves,**
- **Respect each other**
- **Respect your community**

I look forward to working with you to ensure that we achieve the very best for your child. In a world where you can be anything...At Acklam Grange we want our family to Be Kind!

Mr Laidler, Headteacher



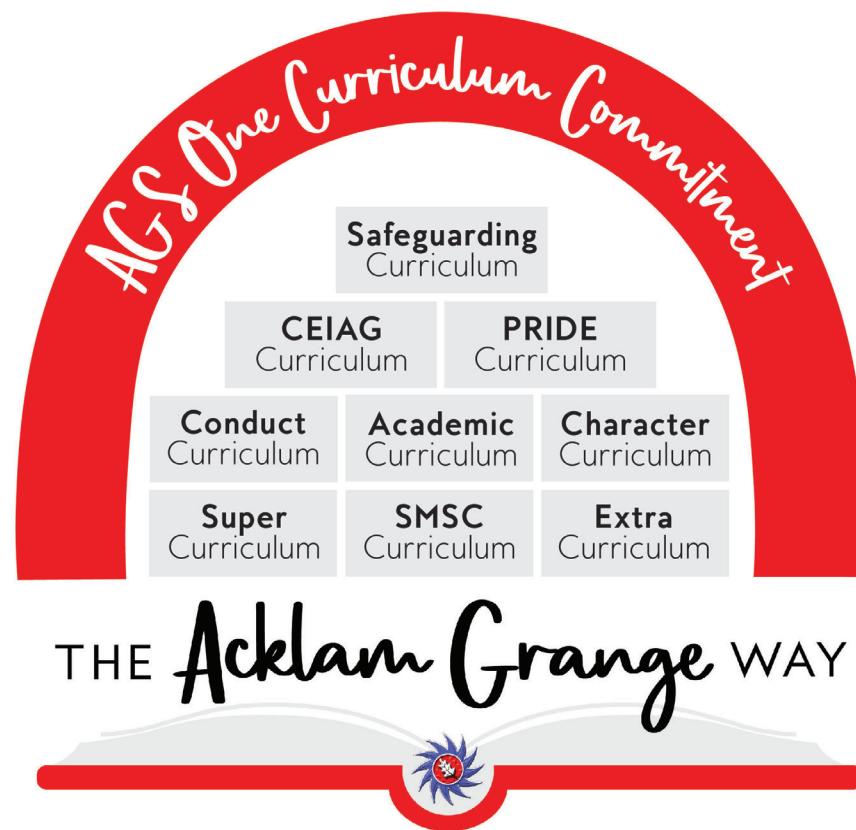


Why Acklam Grange School?

We are delighted that you have chosen Acklam Grange School for your child. We are a comprehensive and inclusive school with a focus on learning for all the family. We are proud to be recognised by Ofsted as “a good school with outstanding features”, which was reconfirmed at our most recent visit in October 2022. Since 2016 we have placed in the top quintile of the country for our student progress.

We are a big school with a big heart. 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 One Curriculum Commitment

We believe that we ALL have a responsibility to develop the whole child at Acklam Grange School and that every interaction, experience and opportunity inside and outside the classroom shapes and moulds our students to be the best they can be. We believe every single student has a talent and it is our responsibility to help them discover it, develop it and provide them with the opportunities to be successful and grow.

Our approach to this is through our ‘One Curriculum Commitment’. This is a commitment to our students and families that the curriculum at AGS is one that is well rounded and develops the whole child. It challenges and develops both the academic aspects but is also deliberately designed for opportunities to explicitly develop the broader aspects of all our students including their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. This ensures that they grow into the best version of themselves they can be and ensures they are ready for the next steps in their lives to be as successful in modern Britain and the world as they can.



The Legacy Learning Trust

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

The Legacy Learning Trust family is a growing MAT for primary and secondary schools.

We pride ourselves on:

- Strong relationships
- Equality and equity
- Aspire to be the best we can be
- Celebrating diversity
- High expectations

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

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. We 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.



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.

Attendance and Punctuality

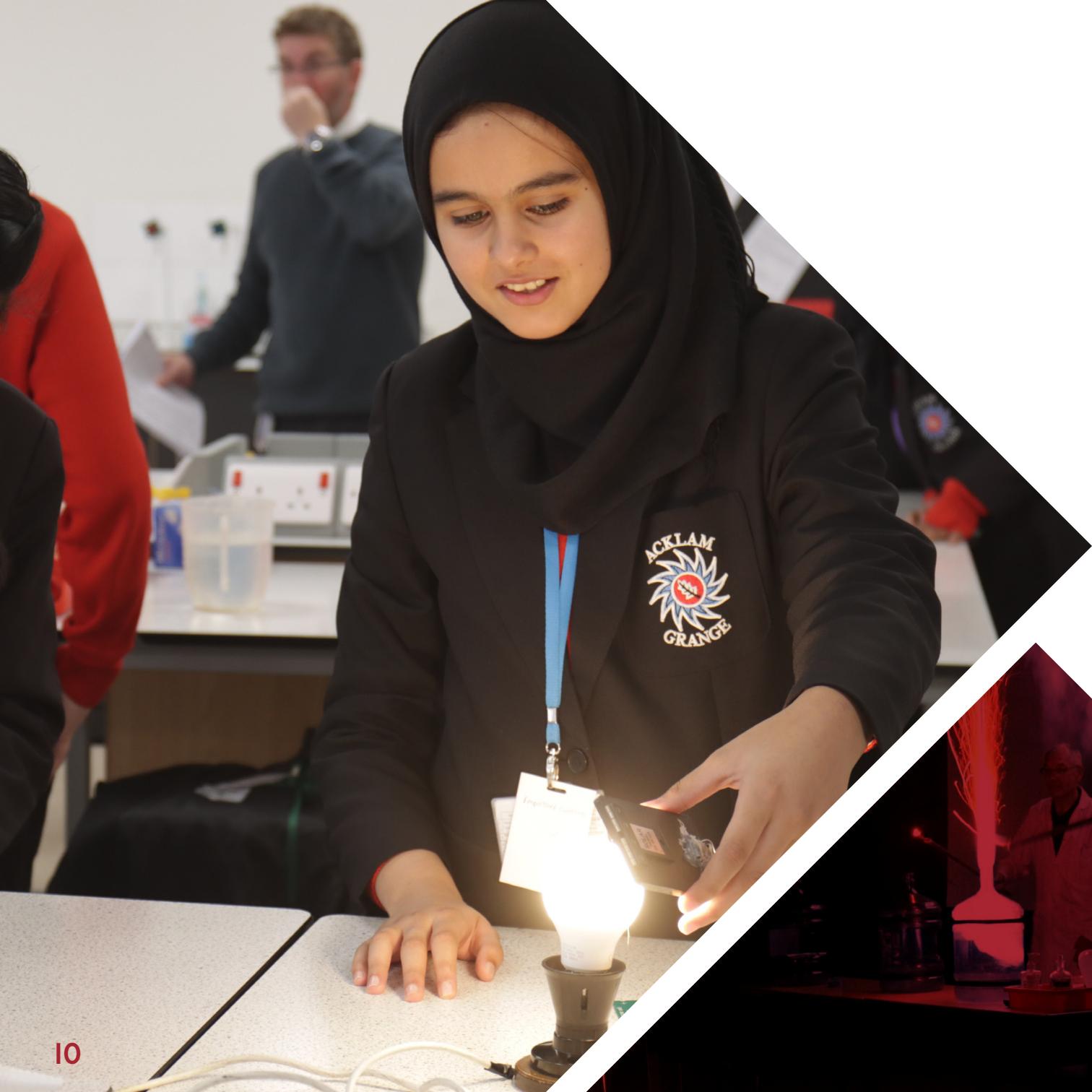
At Acklam Grange School we expect the highest level of attendance from all our students. Good attendance ensures students reach their full potential, both academically and socially, leading to positive life chances in the future.

Did you know that your child's academic success can be directly linked to their attendance? Statistics show that 10 days absence from school in a year could equate to underachievement by half a grade across every subject. So what can you do to ensure your child has the best possible chance to succeed?

Why is good attendance important?

- To make new friends
- To learn and enjoy new experiences
- To develop skills that your child will need in later life
- To take part in a wide range of activities in and outside of Acklam Grange School
- To learn how to look after themselves and encourage independence
- To feel safe and listened to
- To improve life chances and the potential for a good career
- To make a positive contribution to Acklam Grange School and the wider community of Acklam





Attendance and Punctuality

Know the procedures

- If any of your contact details change, including mobile telephone number, please contact school at your earliest convenience
- Contact the school at the first opportunity if your child is genuinely ill or is unable to attend on 01642 277700 option 1 to speak to a member of the Attendance Team
- Keep us informed throughout the duration of your child's absence
- A detailed record of your child's absence is kept in order for us to support your child's needs
- If your child is unwell on the morning but feels well enough to return to school later in the day please send them into school
- Organise non-urgent medical appointments outside of school time
- We appreciate that some appointments during school time are unavoidable. If your child is required to sign out of school, a note from home must be brought to Student Services to be authorised before your child may leave school
- Make sure your child has a good night's sleep and wakes up in good time for the school day. Your child can arrive at school from 8am for a free breakfast but we recommend no later than 8.15am in order for them to be fully prepared for learning
- Talk to someone at the school if there is a problem or reason why your child finds it difficult to attend regularly
- You or your child may contact their form tutor, a member of their Year Team or the Education Welfare Officer. At Acklam Grange School we want your child to feel happy, safe and know that support is available if ever needed
- Students arriving to school late will be met by a member of staff
- Arriving late results in a short detention on the day of lateness unless a valid reason is provided





Attendance and Punctuality

When your child arrives late at school, they miss vital messages and lessons during assembly and tutor time, very often missing crucial instructions at the beginning of lessons. If they are late by only 5 minutes your child will miss 3.4 school days. If your child is late by 30 minutes every day your child will miss 21 days of school per year. This equates to missing more than one school day per fortnight. The whole school punctuality target is 100%.

The impact of attendance and punctuality on attainment . . . Did you know?

Government research shows students who have less than 90% attendance (20 or more days missed in a year) achieve, on average, a whole grade lower than expected in examinations. There is a link between the number of days a child is absent and their average earnings in later life. A child is not in school for 175 days per year – plenty of time to go shopping, take holidays, visit family or attend routine appointments. During term time you, as the parent/carer, have a legal responsibility to ensure that your child attends school regularly. Failure to fulfil this responsibility can lead to prosecution/enforcement.

The best way to support your child's attendance is to be fully aware of how procedures and attendance works – please ensure you have read fully our Be Here, Be on Time, Be the Best Attendance Brochure, which is available on the school website.

Results, progress and achieving every child's full potential

As a comprehensive school we cater for a whole range of children from different backgrounds and with different starting points. Our aim is to empower every child to reach their true potential, whatever that might be. Our examination results demonstrates our "No child gets left behind" family culture, coupled with the quality of teaching and our staff's commitment enabling us to finish in the top quintile of the country for student progress since 2016.

At Acklam Grange School we:

- Set challenging targets for staff and engage in a rigorous and effective professional development programme
- Set challenging targets for students
- Involve students in regular discussions about their own progress
- Support students to remove barriers to learning
- Positively reward students for effort, achievement, good conduct, attendance and punctuality
- Engage with parent/carers regularly through our committed Year Teams, tutors and subject teachers, support teams, parents' consultation events and an effective reporting process
- Provide an environment for learning which is comfortable, welcoming, well-resourced and well equipped for all learners, flexible and ICT rich

Celebrating Success

Our annual celebrating success events instil a sense of pride and achievement in our students, parents and carers, staff, governors, partners and friends of the school, who all come along for what truly are exceptional evenings.

- Annual Celebration of Achievement Evening (Year 7-10)
- Annual Celebration of Achievement Evening (Year 11)
- Annual Sports Achievement Evenings
- Annual Duke of Edinburgh Celebration Evening
- Annual Performing Arts Academy Celebration Evening

Rewards and PRIDE Points

Rewarding students for their hard work and commitment to every aspect of their school life is integral to our school ethos at Acklam Grange School. Staff within school will reward students with PRIDE points whenever they demonstrate perseverance, respect, initiative, direction or expression. This may be through an action, excellent effort and participation in the classroom, exemplary behaviour, great homework, an outstanding piece of work or something special.

As well as PRIDE points, special rewards are given throughout the academic year which range from certificates and positive phone calls to the opportunity to go on rewards trips. Students who demonstrate excellent attendance and punctuality and engage with their academic progress are celebrated every half term in our special PRIDE Celebration Assemblies.

Students and families are able to monitor their achievements through Class Charts and in Tutor Time. This will support them in setting personal goals, and keeping their aspirations high. We strongly advise all parents/carers to download the invaluable app to keep communication high.

Pride Pod

At AGS we believe it is important to encourage our students to take pride in their academic and personal achievements. Our Pride Pod helps to celebrate these achievements by visiting lessons and extracurricular sessions around school, providing students with lots of positive recognition by taking photos and displaying these on our school social media platforms.



AGS Extra

Life at Acklam Grange School is about developing the whole child, not just amazing exam results. This year we provide over 150 opportunities for all students to experience a range of enhanced curriculum activities such as:

Clubs and extra-curricular

- Combined Cadet force
- Duke of Edinburgh
- AGS Sports Academy
- AGS Performing Arts Academy
- A huge range of sports teams and clubs
- AGS Enhance and revision clubs
- Digital Leaders
- Peer Mentors
- Young Reporters
- STEAM Club
- Peer Reading Club
- Film Club
- Media Club
- Maths Club
- Creative Writing
- Enterprise Group
- Book Club
- Prayer Club
- Choir
- Dance
- Orchestra
- Drama
- Language Club
- Debating Club
- Chess Club

Student Visits and Excursions

- Ski trips
- Sports visits
- Foreign language visits
- Humanities field visits
- Rewards excursions
- Theatre excursions
- Museums and Art galleries
- RE-Discover Middlesbrough
- Careers: Visits including place of employment, colleges and universities

Why get involved?

- Experience something new and maximise opportunities
- Further develop skills and do more of what you love
- To increase feelings of joy and happiness
- To 'Personally Develop' and enhance your 'Character'
- Improve your confidence and self-esteem
- Create, build and develop relationships
- Support your physical and mental wellbeing
- Make memories and step out of your comfort zone



N-Compass

The AGS N-Compass Award brings together the experiences, learning and achievements which define the AGS learning journey for every student.

Our one curriculum commitment drives the development of every student as an individual and an academic. This award is a record of every student's personal development and the start of a lifelong learning journey. Encompassing extra-curricular, student leadership, reading, attendance, independence, CEIAG and well-being, to name a few. This award is underpinned by our AGS PRIDE values and AGS Respect agenda. AGS N-Compass defines what it means to be a successful student, recognising that success is individual, earned and to be celebrated. Bespoke to each child's learning experiences, this award is an opportunity for AGS students to shine, demonstrating their journey of preparation for life in modern Britain and how this supports them to set their own direction for future life success.



School Uniform 2025/2026

Our uniform helps students to feel a sense of pride and belonging to our school from the very beginning and the image created by students coming to and from school is extremely important to us.

It is essential that all students attend school in full uniform with a school bag and suitable equipment. We undertake regular uniform and equipment checks throughout the school year to ensure that our students are fully equipped and prepared to learn.

Shoes that are allowed

Plain flat black shoes that are leather or leather look

School Bags:

Needs to be large enough to fit an A4 folder in and your PE kit

Please note that we do not allow extreme haircuts or hair styles and hair must be a natural colour. Make-up and jewellery must not be worn in school; however a practical watch may be worn.

Our school uniform can be purchased from:

Motif 8, Gladstone Industrial Estate, Stephenson Street, Thornaby, TS17 6AL
01642 601501
www.motif8.co.uk

Rawcliffes, 36 Prince Regent Street, Stockton on Tees, TS18 1DF.
01642 636 650.
www.schoolwearcentre.co.uk

From September 2022 we have introduced a uniform exchange programme whereby families can now exchange uniform that has been outgrown for some pre-loved uniform. More details will be sent to parent/carers.

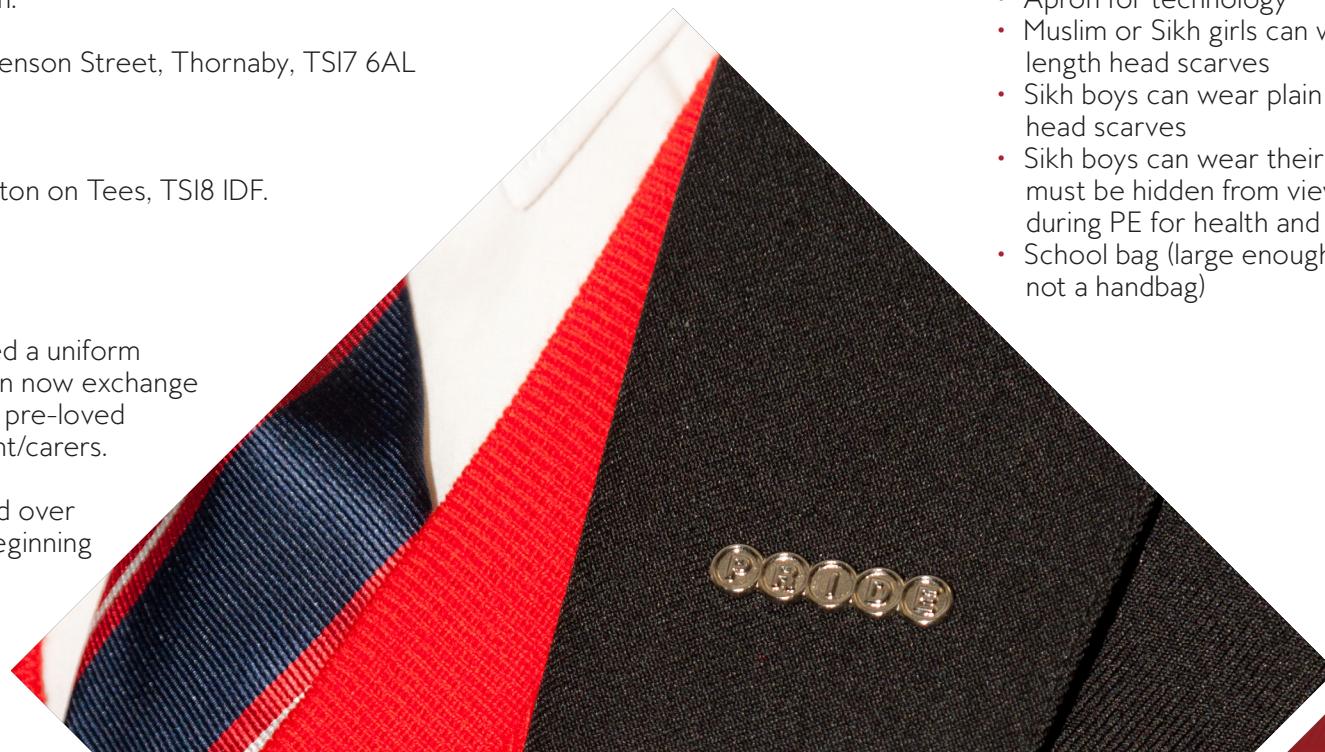
If you are planning to get your ears pierced over summer, please arrange to do so at the beginning of the holidays so they can be taken out in September.

School Uniform

- Blazer – plain black with school logo
- Bright red (not burgundy) long sleeved v-necked sweater with school logo (Year 7-10)
- Navy blue long sleeved v-necked sweater with school logo (Year 11 only)
- Plain black knee length skirt or tailored plain black trousers (No jeans, cords, cargo type, flared, jeggings, tight fitted, baggy or zips)
- White collared shirt or blouse
- School tie (ties to be worn by all students)
- Lanyard
- Smartcard
- Water bottle (each student will be provided with an AGS water bottle)
- Plain black polishable leather shoes, low heeled (no trainers, plimsolls, markings, boots or Velcro straps)
- Plain black socks, plain black tights (must be at least 40 denier) or plain natural tights
- Apron for technology
- Muslim or Sikh girls can wear plain black shoulder length head scarves
- Sikh boys can wear plain black turbans or head scarves
- Sikh boys can wear their Kara (wrist bracelets), these must be hidden from view and must be covered during PE for health and safety reasons
- School bag (large enough to fit an A4 folder, not a handbag)

Physical Education Kit

- Plain red polo shirt with logo (no advertising)
- Training shoes (no plimsolls)
- Plain navy blue shorts/football shorts
- Plain navy blue tracksuit bottoms preferably with school logo (no advertising)
- Girls can wear leggings with the school logo (no advertising)
- Football boots
- Plain red football socks
- Towel
- Red sweatshirt with school logo (no advertising)
- Shin pads
- Gum shield



Useful Information - What do new students ask us?

What if I get lost?

Just ask another student or a member of staff, they will be happy to help. We know it will take a couple of weeks for you to find your way around. You will soon be an expert.

What equipment will I need to take to school every day?

At least one pen, a pencil, ruler, eraser, a green pen, a pencil case and a calculator for maths lessons. A pencil sharpener would be useful and coloured pencils if you have them.

Are the teachers friendly?

The teachers are here to help you and will be happy to do so.

Will I get homework?

You will get to know at the beginning of Year 7 how often you will be given homework.

Do I have to wear a uniform?

You must always come to school wearing the correct uniform, including suitable shoes. We also have a PE kit, which must be worn for PE lessons.

How can I get involved in enhanced curricular opportunities?

Speak to your tutor, Year Team or faculty leaders or sign up in our Freshers Fair!

How will I know what lessons I have to go to?

When you start Year 7 you will be given a printout of your timetable. You can also access your time table on Class Charts. If you lose it please ask your tutor for a new one.

If I have any problems, what should I do?

Speak to a member of staff who you feel comfortable talking to, perhaps your tutor or Year Leader.

How do I pay for my lunch?

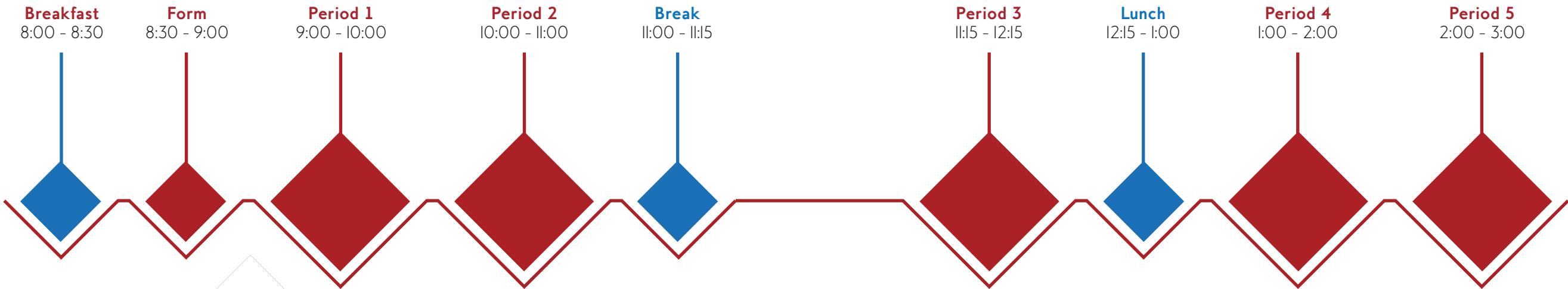
You will use your Smartcard to pay at the till in the dining hall. Your parent/guardian should ideally top-up your Smartcard card using our online payment system, Parent Pay, otherwise you will load money onto the Smartcard at a cash loader machine in the school. Your parent/guardian will receive more information about Parent Pay.

What if I get hungry in the morning?

You can bring a healthy snack with you to eat in the Oakleaf Cafe at break time, or you can buy a snack or drink at the counter using your Smartcard. We also serve a free breakfast from 8.00am.



The School Day



Arrive in school at 8:00am for a free breakfast with your friends and our staff.

Our Digital Promise

Parents

Essential apps to download

Classcharts

Stay connected for instant access to real-time communications regarding your child's:

- Achievements and rewards
- Attitudes to learning

Take the opportunity to discuss these with your child to celebrate and further enhance their positive contribution to school life and their own success.

Paying for visits and other school related charges using ParentPay

Parent Pay is an online payment facility for parents, which is quick and easy to use. It enables parents to pay for school related charges such as lunch money and visits. You may already be familiar with this online service, however, if you are not, you will be provided with easy step-by-step instructions and sign up information to get you started.

Contact the school for support to access these apps if required.

Students

Remote Access

OneDrive

Access your individual area of the school network from outside of school to support anytime/anywhere learning.

Kooth

www.kooth.com

Kooth is an online counselling and emotional well-being service available to all students.

Unifrog

www.unifrog.org

Unifrog is an on-line destinations platform that gives students and parent/carers a wide range of information about post-16 options and opportunities. All students have a Unifrog account

Digital Revision Resources

- Sparx maths
sparxmaths.uk
- Bedrock (English)
bedrocklearning.org
- Seneca Learning (all subjects)
senecalearning.com
- Quizlet
quizlet.com
- AGSLiteracy.com (English)
- Microsoft Office 365 (School Licence)

Term dates & holidays 2025-26

Term Dates	Holidays	PD Days
Autumn Term 2024-2025 Monday 1st September 2025 to Friday 19th December 2025	Autumn Half Term Holiday Monday 27th October 2025 to Friday 31st October 2025 Christmas Holiday Monday 22nd December 2025 to Friday 2nd January 2026	Autumn Term PD Days Monday 1st September 2025 Friday 28th November 2025
Spring Term 2024-2025 Monday 5th January 2026 to Thursday 2nd April 2026	Spring Half Term Holiday Monday 23rd February 2026 to Friday 27th February 2026 Easter Holiday Friday 3rd April 2026 to Friday 17th April 2026	
Summer Term 2024-2025 Monday 20th April 2026 to Tuesday 21st July 2026	Summer Half Term Holiday Monday 25th May 2026 to Friday 29th May 2026	Summer Term PD Days Friday 26th June 2026 or Monday 29th June 2026 (dependent on exam dates) Monday 20th July 2026 Tuesday 21st July 2026

Map



Ground Floor

- A** Changing Rooms, Sports Hall
- B** Activity Hall, Oakleaf Cafe, Performance Hall
- C** Performing Arts
- D** Admin, English, LRC, ARC Services
- E** Maths
- F** Science
- G** Design and Technology

First Floor

- A** PE Class rooms
- C** Creative Arts
- D** Admin, Computing & Business, Languages
- E** Humanities
- F** Science
- G** Design and Technology



Acklam Grange School

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preparing them for life in modern Britain*

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