

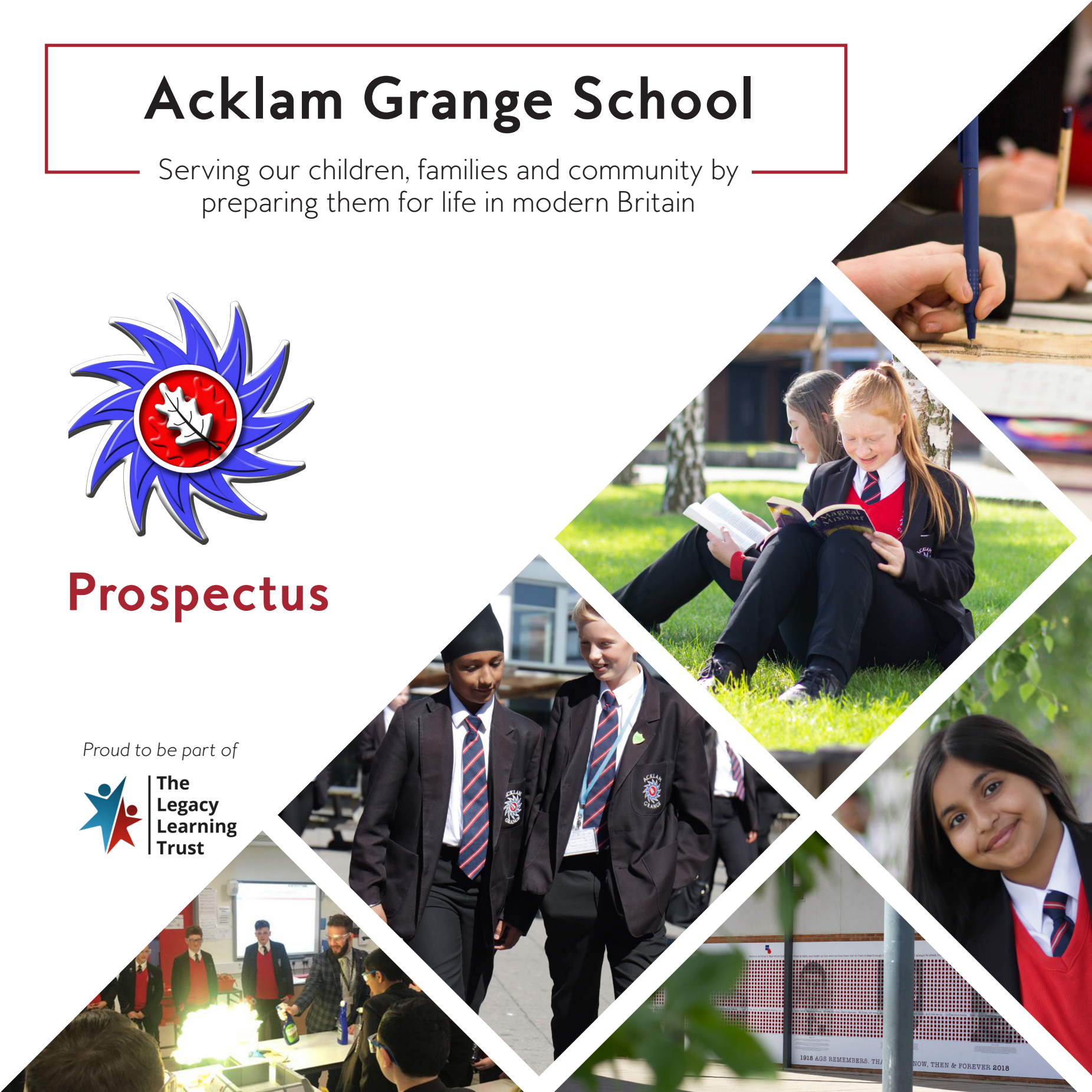
Acklam Grange School

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



Prospectus

Proud to be part of





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 are a family and 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 (TLLT) is a multi-academy trust (MAT) currently with seven schools in its trust and based in the North East in Middlesbrough. TLLT is founded on firmly held beliefs that inclusive education and learning are about high expectation, high aspirations and opportunity regardless of background, where learners should be supported to achieve their very best in the classroom and are encouraged to develop as well rounded individuals who are well prepared for life in modern Britain.

We pride ourselves on:

- Strong relationships
- Equality and equity
- Aspirations
- 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

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 Vision and Values

At Acklam Grange stakeholders have one shared vision and purpose:

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

We are a family, the AGS Family, and everything we do is driven by our unwavering set of shared values.

Our AGS Family values are to:

- Celebrate Diversity
- Place strong relationships at the heart of all we do
- Ensure strong leadership at all levels
- Be Kind
- Be an inclusive school with a focus on equality and equity
- Have high aspirations for all where ‘no child gets left behind’
- Delivering a broad and balanced curriculum that develops the whole child

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 2025/2026



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.



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600+ Grade 7+ achieved by Year 11

73% achieved a good pass in Science

83% of students achieved a Grade 4+ in English

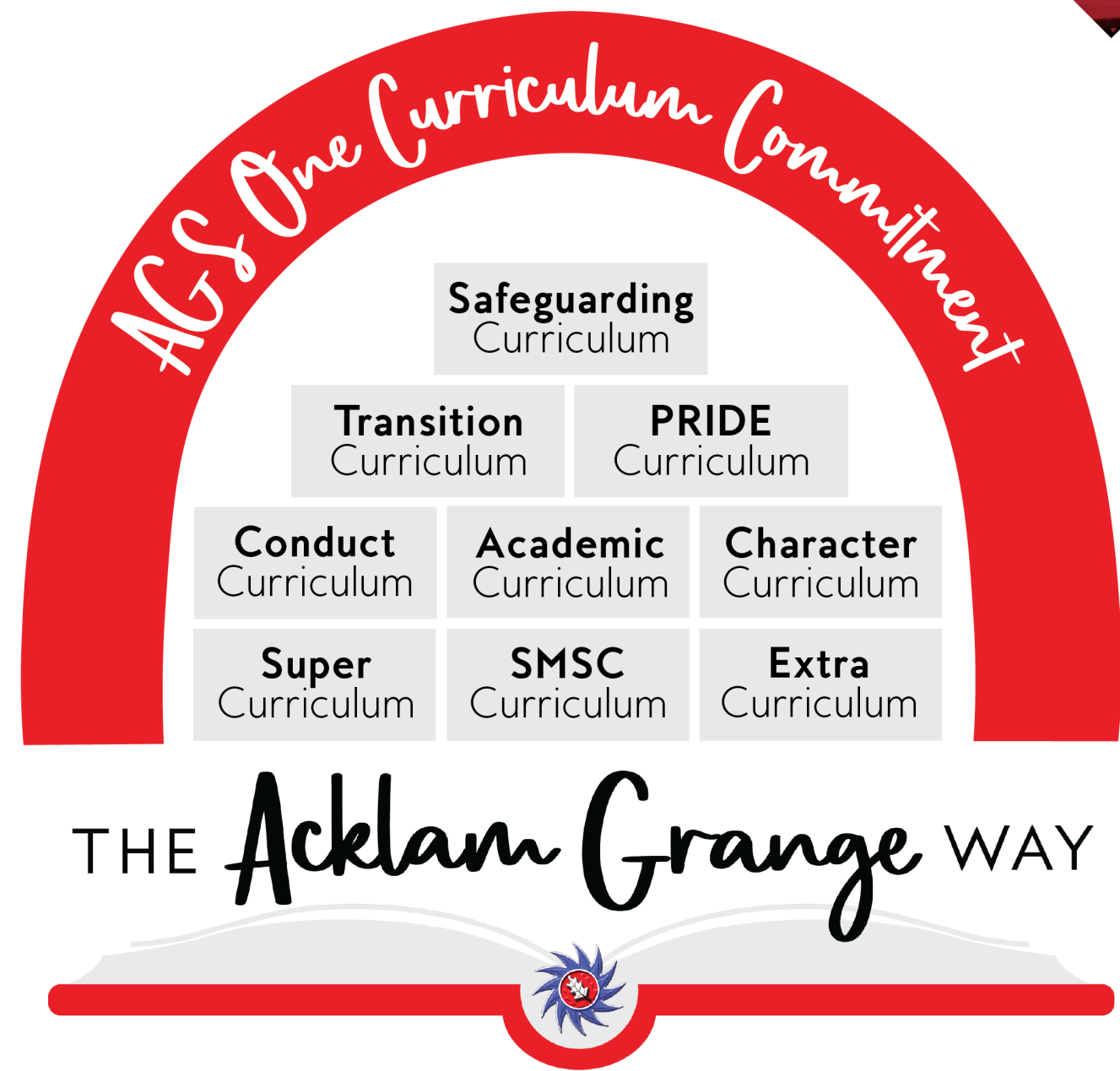
77% of students achieved a Grade 4+ in Maths

National Award Winners for Outstanding Progress Education Business Awards

Proud of our amazing student outcomes

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.

One 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. Our curriculum is constantly reviewed to ensure it continues to meet the needs of our students.



One 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 quantile 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.

To support your transition, we have put together some videos that we hope will help you become familiar with AGS. Scan the QR code to view them.



The AGS Equality and Diversity Pledge

Promoting equality and diversity is at the core of all that we do at AGS. It is a common thread across many areas of our school. AGS is a school rich in diversity and this is something which we encourage all our students to celebrate.

Upon joining our school all staff and students are asked to sign up to our Equality and Diversity Pledge.

As a member of the Acklam Grange family I pledge to...

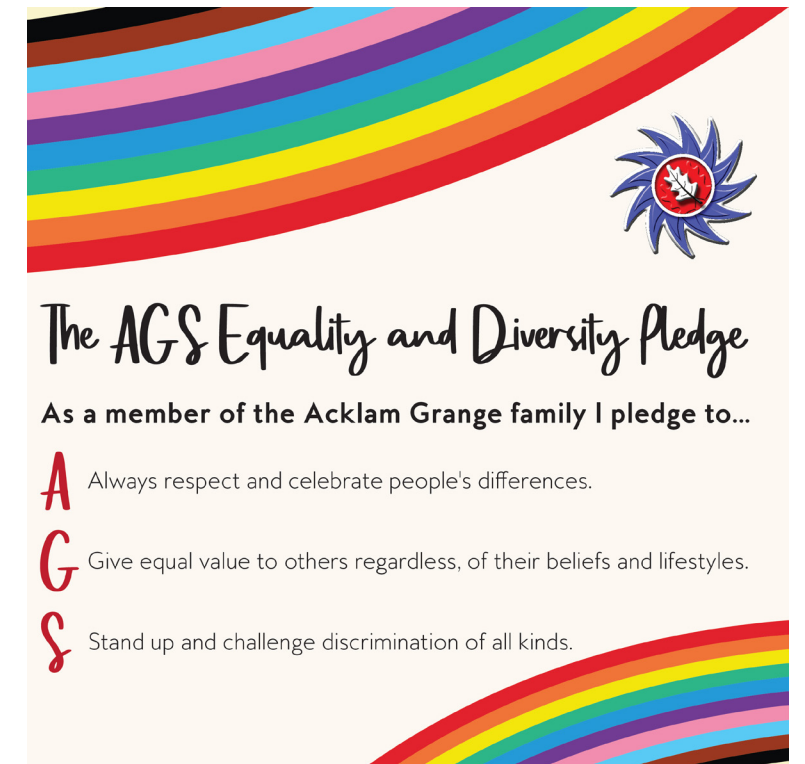
- A** - Always respect and celebrate people's differences.
- G** - Give equal value to others regardless, of their beliefs and lifestyles.
- S** - Stand up and challenge discrimination of all kinds.

The Equality Act became law in 2010. It covers everyone in Britain and protects people from discrimination, harassment and victimisation. Everyone in Britain is protected. This is because the Equality Act protects people against discrimination because of the protected characteristics that we all have. Under the Equality Act, there are nine Protected Characteristics:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender reassignment
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Marriage or civil partnership
- Sex
- Sexual orientation
- Pregnancy and maternity

The 9 Protected Characteristics are actively promoted in school through:

- Our school ethos statements and development plans
- Our school PRIDE core values
- Our school behaviour policy
- Conscious role modelling by all adults in the school community
- Active engagement and communication with parents and carers
- Assemblies
- British Values themes for a day, week and term
- Discussion within curriculum subjects, taking a cross-curricular approach
- Promoting articulation by building appropriate language and a coherent vocabulary
- Personal, Social, Health and Economic education (PSHE) sessions are delivered to all students through our Pride curriculum.
- Religious Studies (RS) lessons, RSE lessons
- Sporting, Art and Cultural Events
- Pupil Voice including through our student leadership system
- Educational visits
- Real-life learning outside the classroom
- Guest speakers
- Developing links with local, national and international communities
- Extra-curricular activities, after-school clubs, charity work and work within the local community



AGS Extra and Super 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. To help our students to experience something new and maximise opportunities whilst making memories and learning to step out of your comfort zone.

Extra and Super Curricular experiences are as important as all other building blocks in our 'One Curriculum commitment'.

A huge range of sports teams and clubs

- AGS Enhance and revision clubs
- Wide range of sports and AGS Sports Academy
- Combined Cadet Force
- Duke of Edinburgh
- STEAM including Science Club, Lego Robotics and Cipher Club
- Debate club
- Maths club
- Creative writing
- Book club
- Prayer club
- Choir
- AGS Live Lounge
- Drama
- Gardening Club
- Warhammer
- Chess club



Scan the QR code to view our AGS Extra and Super Curriculum offer.



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.

Creative and Performing Arts Academy

In 2023, we launched our 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.

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



Community

Community with a focus on learning for all the family, we pride ourselves on our rich and varied Acorn Centre community activity programme. Our varied programme enhances our already successful provision for local families of all ages. From martial arts to football, performing arts to cricket, 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:** visit our Acorn Centre website www.acklamgrange.schoolhire.co.uk for more information



Scan the QR to view our Acorn Centre offer and book one of our spaces.





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