



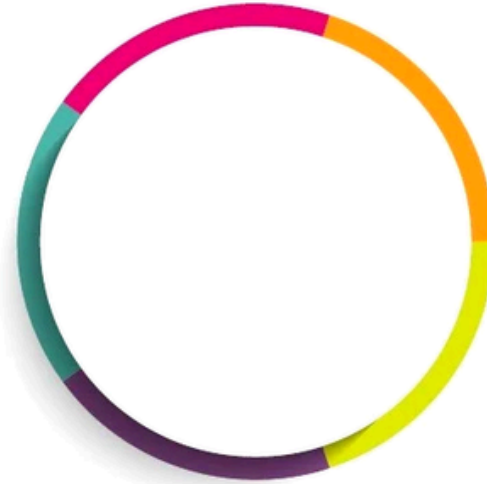
grove school

Part of the **Marches** Academy Trust

ANNUAL REPORT 2025/26

Our Vision & Values

Our vision:
Achievement
through caring



Excellence: striving
always for mastery
and personal success



Integrity: consistently
acting with honesty,
compassion and
respect



Empathy: embracing
and supporting the
uniqueness of every
individual



Creativity: inspiring
and challenging
through invention,
experimentation
and exploration



Equality: ensuring
fair opportunity
for all

A Mindset to Succeed

Reflections

As this academic year draws to a close I am delighted to share with you the progress that Team have made over the past 12 months. As we continue to grow and develop there's a real sense of optimism and excitement amongst what our future holds.

Highlights of this year are:

- Election of our first Student Parliament
- Development of the site (3 new toilet blocks, all driven by student voice)
- Significant shifts in our approaches to inclusion through the newly designed Learning for Life centre
- High Sheriff award for our work in the community
- Nomination for an ARC Timpson award for Trauma Informed practice

Behind these headlines are smaller stories of huge impact, our fantastic students representing themselves at elite levels across many sports on the regional, national and international stage. Community projects that have revitalised parts of Market Drayton and a school that is fast becoming a school for its community.

We talk about the flywheel of momentum at Team Grove - this year has seen our flywheel move at pace - long may it continue!



Mitch Allsopp
Headteacher

This year has seen a big focus on classroom practice with the drive of making all classroom inclusive and delivering the outcomes that our students deserve. We have made some big steps forward with this, and you will see as we look at priorities into next year - we are moving into a period of refining our main areas of priority.

School Development Plan on a Page | 2025/26

People First

Anytime, Anywhere Learning

Belonging

Working Today to Protect Tomorrow

Wellbeing

Leaders, and staff, at all levels know, understand and promote a culture of wellbeing and belonging.

Improving Attendance and Behaviour Systems

Attendance and behaviour systems continue to improve focusing on consistency and pre-emptive measures.

The Shore

The Shore and The Shore 2.0 are seen as a beacon of excellence for Transition across the county.

Developing the site

Diversifying the site to incorporate Heart Spaces, redeveloping space for wider community use.

Personalised CPD

Staff receive responsive, high-quality CPD throughout the year.

Embedding Instructional Coaching

Improvements in outcomes across all key stages evidenced through accelerated improvement in the classroom

The Seven Year Journey

Deliberate and intentional experiences and milestones to pave a 7-year journey at Team Grove., hallmarked by student voice

Community

Lasting connections are made and maintained impact our whole community

Trust Priorities 25/26

Robust Programme of Reading, Oracy, Numeracy and Revision

Ensuring that reading, oracy, numeracy and revision (RONR) are prioritised and used as a vehicle for change in learner automaticity.

Learning for Life and Soft Landings

Learning for Life Centre is established with a soft landing.

To see the School Development Plan in full, please look at the SOF.

Achievement through Caring

part of the Marches Academy Trust

School Priorities (SDP) 2026 – 2027



	Anytime, Anywhere Learning	People First	Belonging	Working Today to Protect Tomorrow
	There is an exceptional culture of learning promoted by all, leading to above national expectations at each stage of the Seven Year Journey	Staff are empowered to be high-performing and value their own self-improvement	The strength of the seven-year journey is embedded where all CYP are seen, heard and belong to Team Grove	There is an innovative approach to sustainable ways of working, financial and environmental approaches as Team Grove continue to become a school of choice and a 'Jewel in the Crown' of Market Drayton.
Outcomes	All subjects improve beyond national averages, with clear national benchmarks, KS4 at least national, KS5 above average, secure destinations data, and rapid strengthening of foundational knowledge.	Improve staff wellbeing and satisfaction by driving full Steplab engagement, reducing avoidable absence, raising satisfaction to 75%+, and embedding clear accountability for student progress.	Embed the 7-year journey so all students belong, achieve above national outcomes regardless of entry point, and feel safe within a strong safeguarding culture.	Generate sustainable income through site development, embedded KPIs, and expanded L4L support across the Trust.
Inclusion	Ensure all students thrive through engaging, inclusive learning, with agile, faculty-led CPD and effective L4L deployment enabling staff to close foundational knowledge gaps and reduce NEET risk.	Engage all staff in coaching, supported by wellbeing and clear communication, to strengthen career pathways and make Grove the school of choice.	Create inclusive, trauma-informed environments that support curriculum readiness, with Sixth Form students actively mentoring younger learners.	Develop specialist SEND provision through the Resource Hub, strengthen community links to support Y7 and Y12 recruitment, and grow Grove Connex mentoring.
Culture	Build a calm, safe culture where attendance and engagement are rewarded and all groups exceed national attendance.	Build a strong team culture through shared community projects and regular check-ins that strengthen connection and feedback.	Embed a culture of reward and community, where student voice shapes meaningful experiences and belonging across the seven-year journey.	Use AI to reduce workload and clearly showcase Grove's positive impact across the local community.

Running through as a thread of each Pillar of the school are three strands - Culture, Inclusion and Outcomes. These are three critical aspects that we expect to be considered in all aspects of school improvement..

Impact of Parent Partnership Group (PPG)



We are proud to support the work of our Parent Partnership Group - who have celebrated their first anniversary as a group - and what a year they have had!



Grove Firework event

Over 1500 members of our community came together on a very wet evening in the late autumn to celebrate the return of fireworks. **Support for the Y11 Prom**

The team have raised money to help fund favours and the costs of the DJ - something which was driven by student voice.



Grove Parliament appointed



In November, election fever had gripped Team Grove as students headed to the polls to elect the school's first ever Prime Minister. With 11 candidates representing all year groups (and Sixth Form forming the House of Lords), students actively campaigned, shared their manifestos, and put forward their vision for change. The level of engagement was exceptional, with a 96.4% turnout and over 800 votes cast. Bobby Allen in Year 9 was elected as the inaugural Prime Minister.

Since then, the impact of the student parliament has been significant. Student voice has directly influenced key developments across the school. Notably, this has included the introduction of the new uniform, which has strengthened a shared sense of identity and pride among students. In addition, student feedback led to the improvement of toilet spaces, ensuring these areas better reflect the values of respect, dignity, and wellbeing across the school community.

A further area of impact has been the development and prioritisation of "heart spaces." These spaces have been shaped by student input and are now used to support wellbeing, reflection, and positive relationships, contributing to a calmer and more inclusive environment.

Overall, the student parliament has demonstrated that student voice is both valued and powerful here at Team Grove. We can't wait to see the Parliament's continued impact.

Inclusion - The creation of the *Learning for Life* centre

The concept

The Learning for Life Centre is a central, supportive provision designed for vulnerable students who find it difficult to access the full curriculum. It provides a safe, structured environment where students can follow a hybrid or modified timetable, combining academic learning with targeted therapeutic and pastoral interventions. The centre offers mentoring spaces, a “soft landing” area for students unable to attend lessons, and hub provision for SEND and vulnerable learners. Its core aim is to build students’ confidence, self-esteem, and readiness so they can successfully reintegrate into full-time classroom learning.

The impact so far...

The Learning for Life Centre has strengthened the school’s ability to support students holistically, ensuring that academic progress, attendance, and wellbeing are addressed together. Through targeted interventions and a shared staff responsibility model, it has improved student engagement, resilience, and confidence. As a result, more students are able to re-engage with their education and transition back into mainstream lessons successfully, contributing to a more inclusive environment where all students are supported to thrive.

Impact of our Local Governing Body (LGB)

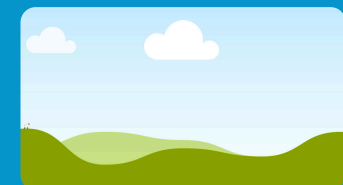
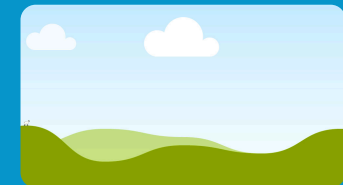
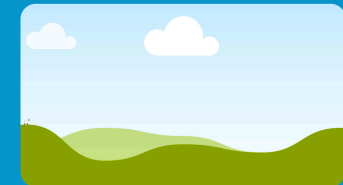
We're delighted to share with you how the Local Governing Body (LGB) continues to grow in strength and impact for the benefit of every child in our school community. All governor positions are now filled, bringing together a skilled and committed team, including a Primary Headteacher who leads on key areas such as Safeguarding, Pupil Premium and SEND, as well as supporting The Shore provision and smooth transitions into the main school and Key Stage 4.

Our governors have established strong link roles aligned with trust priorities, with shadow governors developing expertise in safeguarding, inclusion and learning. Particular attention has been given to “Anytime Anywhere Learning” and to fostering a strong sense of belonging, with multiple governors and experienced educationalists championing the needs of vulnerable learners.

A real highlight has been the focus on leadership throughout the school. Governors have looked closely at how leadership at all levels – from faculty teams to pastoral care and student voice – can continue to develop and strengthen the school experience. Looking ahead, governance will also support Post-16 partnerships and the exciting development of new e-learning opportunities.

Importantly, governors are not just involved – they are making a difference. Clear impact statements guide their work, such as identifying teaching strengths through a “Talent Matrix” and sharpening focus on outcomes and wellbeing for vulnerable students. Their visits and meetings show thoughtful challenge, strong support, and a real commitment to listening to student voice.

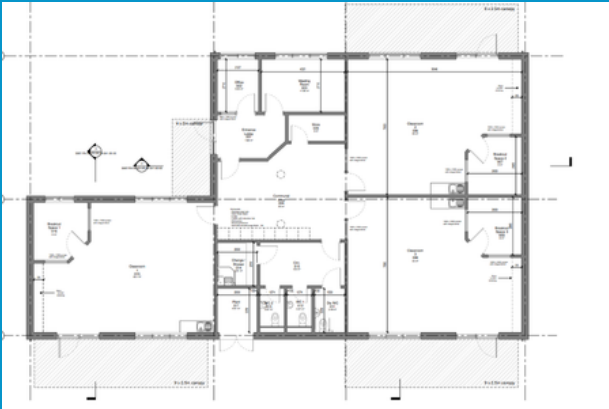
Beyond the classroom, governors actively support community engagement. From initiatives like the Christmas Day meal to developing new sports facilities, their work helps strengthen the school's role at the heart of the community. An external review recognised this strong, effective governance, noting the positive challenge and support provided. With a full and highly skilled governing body, we are confident this work will continue to bring meaningful improvements for all our students.



Rob Hower

Chair of Governors

An Exciting Future...



The development of a SEN Resource Hub that will serve young people from Market Drayton and neighbouring villages. This is due to open in September 2027 - a vital resource for our community



After many years of community work, Grove has been selected as the location for the Community Astroturf Pitch. This landmark amenity has been a real tale of community groups working to make the project take off. We cannot wait to see our young people enjoying themselves on the new pitch - hopefully as soon as October 2026!



grove school

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