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Prospectus

Granta School, Cambridgeshire

Developing independence and life skills for all

Welcome to Granta School

Welcome to Granta School, a place where everyone is welcomed and valued and where we aim to create a strong, inclusive community that supports one another, both socially and professionally.

As a community special school, we cater to students aged 3-19 years that have Education, Health and Care Plans. Our provision supports a range of different needs, including moderate to severe learning difficulties, complex needs, profound and multiple learning disabilities and Autism Spectrum Conditions.

At Granta, we pride ourselves on a highly competent, caring staff team, who go above and beyond to ensure the wellbeing and progress of all our young people, working closely with families to ensure a collaborative approach.

Central to our community is a shared vision for all of our students to be as independent as possible within their capabilities and as such the journey to develop the essential life skills of engagement, communication, daily living skills and social skills are at the heart of everything we do.





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Granta
School

Our Aims

As a school, we aim to understand the individual needs, backgrounds and interests of each and every child to ensure we provide the most personalised learning experience possible.

We aim to promote independence and life skills development for all students, personalising learning and taking into account their starting points, needs and abilities.

We aim to keep all our students and staff safe at all times. We educate our students on how to keep themselves safe in daily life and work with our families to support this.

We ensure everyone within our community feels a sense of belonging at school. We promote friendships, a sense of self and include everyone within class and school activities, taking into account their choices and feelings.

We provide our students with a wide range of fulfilling, fun experiences so that they can identify what makes them happy and what they like. We foster a sense of personal wellbeing, working closely with families.



The Granta Values

At Granta, we work towards a common vision with a set of shared values. We support all our staff, students, parents, Governors and other stakeholders to reflect these values in everything we do.

Communicate

- › Facilitating and listening to every voice
- › Encouraging choice making
- › Respecting each other in every interaction
- › Being clear, transparent and genuine
- › Using the right channels and knowing your audience

Care

- › Being kind and compassionate to others and ourselves
- › Supporting and looking after those in our community
- › Responding to the individual
- › Having patience in difficult situations
- › Showing empathy to all
- › Understanding each other's strengths, limitations and needs
- › Valuing and celebrating diversity

Innovate

- › Thinking outside the box
- › Being creative and taking risks
- › Using ground breaking research
- › Keeping up with new technologies
- › Coming forward with new ideas
- › Leading and motivating with new approaches

Achieve

- › Striving for excellence
- › High aspirations for all
- › Developing ourselves and others
- › Personalisation and progress

Collaborate

- › Working cohesively as a team
- › Sharing best practice
- › Being part of a wider community
- › Liaising with families, therapists, pupils and other agencies
- › Being outward facing
- › Involving all stakeholders



Our Curriculum

Our curriculum aims to prepare our pupils from the earliest years to be as independent as they can possibly be. We provide a wide range of exciting, inclusive and personalised learning opportunities to support them to develop key life skills, including communication, self-care skills, everyday living skills and functional English, Maths and ICT skills.

Early Years & Key Stage 1

Jupiter

Pupils encounter experiences which are local to them and their immediate environment

Curriculum Aims

- To make choices, follow instructions and directions
- To participate in a range of learning activities
- To begin to develop self-care skills

Curriculum Areas Of Learning

- Physical Development
- Communication, Language & Literacy
- Personal, Social & Emotional
- Maths
- Understanding of the world
- Expressive Art & Design

Key Stages 2, 3, 4 & 5

Flying Scotsman

Pupils encounter thematic holistic experiences based on what is local to them, their family and wider communities

Curriculum Aims

- To communicate preferences, wants, needs and opinions
- To accept, co-operate with and contribute to physical and self care routines and accept help from others
- To be content in their own company and entertain themselves for short periods of time
- To confidently interact with different people and be accepting of social and community activities
- To participate in early exploratory learning to develop an understanding of their immediate environment

Curriculum Areas Of Learning

- Communication
- Cognition
- Physical
- Social
- Self Care and Independence

Eurostar

Pupils encounter a mix of subject specific and themed experiences in the wider environment

Curriculum Aims

To interact with others, make choices and follow instructions and directions

To establish key skills in literacy, numeracy and ICT and apply them in daily life

To make positive relationships with other people and take responsibility for themselves

To develop skills which will enable them to be more independent now and in adult life

To learn about the wider world and express themselves creatively

Orient Express

Pupils encounter subject specific experiences in a wide range of Environments

Curriculum Aims

To effectively communicate with a range of audiences

To develop a sense of responsibility and keep themselves and others safe

To develop personal independence along with the skills to move into employment in adulthood

To form meaningful relationships with others and play a part in their local and wider community

To develop functional English and Maths skills that are needed in everyday life and that may lead to qualifications

Curriculum Areas Of Learning

Communication & Literacy

Skills for Life

Digital Literacy

Physical Skills

Personal Development

Creativity

Maths

The Working World

Curriculum Areas Of Learning

Communication & Comprehension

Skills for Life

PE, RE & PSHE

Work Experience & Enterprise

Art & Design & Music

Computing

Geography, History & Science

Food technology

Health and Wellbeing

In addition to our core curriculum offer, we offer a range of other exciting activities to support student wellbeing, independence and communication, including Forest School, community visits and residential trips. We use a wide range of interventions and therapies to better meet the diverse needs of our students. These include Hydrotherapy, Integrated Art & Play Therapy Music Therapy and Occupational Therapists focused on sensory provision. We also work closely with health professionals including School Nursing, Speech and Language therapists, Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists and Emotional Literacy Support Assistants to implement programmes within school.

The World of Work

We believe that it is essential to start educating our students about the world of work and different careers from the earliest stage and our comprehensive Careers Strategy details the opportunities from Key Stage 1 all the way through the school to ensure personalised progression. From Key Stage 3, students begin to engage in work experience opportunities within school, extending to group and individual placements at external workplaces by Key Stage 4.

Our School Day

The school day for pupils starts at 9 am and finishes at 3.35 pm, when pupils are collected by family or by Local Authority provided minibus or taxi. Primary pupils have a morning, lunchtime and afternoon break to play outside, whilst secondary aged students have morning and lunchtime breaks.





Admissions

All school admissions are co-ordinated and managed by the Local Authority, so to apply for a place at Granta a parent/carer would need to raise this with their current school and also contact their SEND caseworker. The caseworker at the Local Authority will then send us consultation papers. The main criteria for securing a place at Granta include:

- Special school education rather than mainstream can best meet the pupil's needs
- Resources are available to meet the pupil's needs, including the correct funding for those with highly complex medical or behavioural needs
- The pupil has an Education, Health & Care plan (EHCP) which includes a learning disability
- The pupil wants to come to the school and the parents agree with our school values, aims and policies
- A place is available in the school and there is sufficient physical space and human resources
- The placement is appropriate for the pupil and in most cases is the nearest available to their home

We do encourage parents / carers to visit the school website for further information.



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