GROVE ACADEMY

SCHOOL HANDBOOK 2026/27



Preparing learners for a successful future

Contents

This handbook is designed as a practical guide for families. It explains the Grove experience and signposts detailed policies, current dates and changing information to the school or Dundee City Council website.

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Keep the live version handy
Details such as clubs, study support, course-choice materials, policies and financial support can change during the year. The handbook links to live information via the school website wherever possible. Families can also access the convenient Jigsaw school app on mobile devices:
Download the Jigsaw School App on the Apple App Store for iOS or get the Jigsaw School App on Google Play for Android.

Welcome to Grove Academy



Dear Parent/Carer,

I warmly welcome you to Grove Academy. We want every learner to feel included, valued and supported to be their best, and we work in partnership with families to make that ambition real.

Our school community is built on positive relationships and our shared values of Commitment, Ambition, Respect and Equity. These values shape our expectations, our learning and teaching, our support for learners and the opportunities available beyond the classroom.

This handbook explains the key aspects of life at Grove Academy including how learning is organised, how progress is shared, how we support wellbeing and additional needs, how families can stay involved and where to find further information. It is intended to be useful throughout your learner's time with us.

We look forward to working with you and welcoming your family into the Grove Academy school community.

Tim Woodcock
Head Teacher

Grove Academy at a glance

Head Teacher
Mr Tim Woodcock

School roll
1,310 learners

Stages
S1-S6

Status
Co-educational, non-denominational

Gaelic-medium education
Not provided at Grove Academy

Address
24 Claypotts Road, Broughty Ferry, Dundee, DD5 1AB

Telephone
01382 436800

Email
groveacademy@dundeeschools.scot



Grove Academy has served the Broughty Ferry community since 1889. The present school building opened in 2009 and serves a large catchment including the associated primary schools and families joining Grove Academy through placing requests.

Our School Vision

To be a strong school community, built on positive relationships, where everyone feels included, valued and supported to be their best.

Our School Values

| Commitment |
We follow through on decisions we make and challenges we take on, even when things become difficult.

| Ambition |
We strive to do the best we possibly can in everything we do.

| Respect |
We value everyone in our school community and treat them as we would like to be treated.

| Equity |
We all have access to everything we need to be successful.

Preparing learners for a successful future

Who to contact

For most questions about an individual learner, the Guidance Teacher is the best first point of contact. Guidance staff hold an overview of progress, wellbeing and support and can coordinate with class teachers, faculties or senior leaders when required. For prospective parents/carers please contact the school office directly to arrange a visit.

WHAT IS IT ABOUT?	FIRST CONTACT	HOW
General enquiry / absence	School Office	01382 436800 or Parent Portal
Progress, wellbeing or personal support	Guidance Teacher	Contact directly or via the School Office
Subject-specific learning concern	Faculty / class teacher	The office can direct your enquiry
Safeguarding concern	Designated Child Protection Officer	Contact the school immediately
Concern or complaint	Guidance / relevant Faculty Head, then senior leader	See complaints information on p21

Senior Leadership Team

NAME	ROLE
Mr Tim Woodcock	Head Teacher
Mrs Claire-Louise Cunningham	DHT - Orchar House
Mrs Carla Barbour	DHT - Reres House
Mr Matthew Robertson	DHT - Gillies House
Mrs Laura Larkworthy	DHT - Dawson House
Mrs Lynn Preston	Business Manager

Guidance team: View the current Guidance Team and House allocations

Senior Leadership Team: View the Senior Leadership Team page

School day and key dates

Grove Academy operates a 32-period week. Each teaching period is 50 minutes and Tutor Time takes place at the start of every day. Broad General Education learners (S1-S3) have the earlier morning break; Senior Phase learners (S4-S6) have the later break. Lunch is 50 minutes and takes place at different times on longer and shorter school days as shown on the following page.

TIME / SESSION	BGE	SENIOR PHASE
Tutor Time	08:45–08:55	08:45–08:55
P1	08:55–09:45	08:55–09:45
P2	09:45–10:35	09:45–10:35
BGE break / SP P3	10:35–10:50 Break	10:35–11:25 P3
BGE P3 / SP break	10:50–11:40 P3	11:25–11:40 Break
P4	11:40–12:30	11:40–12:30
Mon–Tue P5 / Wed–Fri lunch	12:30–13:20	12:30–13:20
Mon–Tue lunch / Wed–Fri P5	13:20–14:10	13:20–14:10
P6	14:10–15:00	14:10–15:00
P7 (Mon–Tue only)	15:00–15:50	15:00–15:50

Finishing times
Monday and Tuesday: 15:50. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: 15:00.

Key session dates: pupils returned on 18 August 2026. Term 1 ends 9 October; Term 2 ends 23 December; Term 3 ends 25 March; the final day of session is 2 July 2027. In-service days and holidays are published in the live school calendar.

Key dates: View the current Key Dates page

School day at a glance

Broad General Education (S1-S3) - earlier break

MON			TUE			WED			THU			FRI		
08:45-08:55	T		08:45-08:55	T		08:45-08:55	T		08:45-08:55	T		08:45-08:55	T	
08:55-09:45	1		08:55-09:45	1		08:55-09:45	1		08:55-09:45	1		08:55-09:45	1	
09:45-10:35	2		09:45-10:35	2		09:45-10:35	2		09:45-10:35	2		09:45-10:35	2	
10:35-10:50	BREAK		*10:35-10:50*	BREAK		*10:35-10:50*	BREAK		*10:35-10:50*	BREAK		*10:35-10:50*	BREAK	
10:50-11:40	3		*10:50-11:40*	3		*10:50-11:40*	3		*10:50-11:40*	3		*10:50-11:40*	3	
11:40-12:30	4		11:40-12:30	4		11:40-12:30	4		11:40-12:30	4		11:40-12:30	4	
12:30-13:20	5		12:30-13:20	5		12:30-13:20	LUNCH		12:30-13:20	LUNCH		12:30-13:20	LUNCH	
13:20-14:10	LUNCH		13:20-14:10	LUNCH		13:20-14:10	5		13:20-14:10	5		13:20-14:10	5	
14:10-15:00	6		14:10-15:00	6		14:10-15:00	6		14:10-15:00	6		14:10-15:00	6	
15:00-15:50	7		15:00-15:50	7										

Senior Phase (S4-S6) - later break

MON			TUE			WED			THU			FRI		
08:45-08:55	T		08:45-08:55	T		08:45-08:55	T		08:45-08:55	T		08:45-08:55	T	
08:55-09:45	1		08:55-09:45	1		08:55-09:45	1		08:55-09:45	1		08:55-09:45	1	
09:45-10:35	2		09:45-10:35	2		09:45-10:35	2		09:45-10:35	2		09:45-10:35	2	
10:35-11:25	3		*10:35-11:25*	3		*10:35-11:25*	3		*10:35-11:25*	3		*10:35-11:25*	3	
11:25-11:40	BREAK		*11:25-11:40*	BREAK		*11:25-11:40*	BREAK		*11:25-11:40*	BREAK		*11:25-11:40*	BREAK	
11:40-12:30	4		11:40-12:30	4		11:40-12:30	4		11:40-12:30	4		11:40-12:30	4	
12:30-13:20	5		12:30-13:20	5		12:30-13:20	LUNCH		12:30-13:20	LUNCH		12:30-13:20	LUNCH	
13:20-14:10	LUNCH		13:20-14:10	LUNCH		13:20-14:10	5		13:20-14:10	5		13:20-14:10	5	
14:10-15:00	6		14:10-15:00	6		14:10-15:00	6		14:10-15:00	6		14:10-15:00	6	
15:00-15:50	7		15:00-15:50	7										

Starting at Grove Academy

Transition is more than a set of visits: it is the process of helping each learner and family understand Grove Academy, build relationships and transfer the information needed for a successful start.

P7 to S1

- Grove Academy works closely with associated primary schools to share learning, wellbeing and support information.
- Families receive dedicated transition information and opportunities to meet key staff.
- P7 transition events include a family information evening and transition days in June.
- Enhanced transition can be arranged for learners who would benefit from additional visits, planning or support.
- Guidance and Support for Learning staff help coordinate individual plans where required.

Joining Grove Academy at another stage

Families moving into the area or seeking a place at Grove Academy should contact the school office. We will support enrolment, transfer of information, timetabling and introductions to the relevant Guidance team. Placing requests are administered by Dundee City Council.

2026/27 transition dates
P7 family information evening: 8 June 2027. P7 transition days: 9-11 June 2027. Current information and the transition leaflet are available on the school website.

P7-S1 Transition: View the P7-S1 Transition page

DCC enrolment and placing requests: View the Dundee City Council enrolment and placing requests page

Our curriculum

Our curriculum at Grove Academy is designed to provide a coherent experience from S1 to S6, shaped by our values and by the Curriculum for Excellence principles of breadth, depth, progression, coherence, personalisation and choice, relevance, challenge and enjoyment.

Across the curriculum we develop literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing, alongside subject knowledge, skills for learning, life and work, creativity, employability, sustainability and learner voice.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
S1	Eng					Maths					Language			Science				Hst	Geo	MS	Art		Mus	Dra	BSt	CSt	CDT	HE	PE		RE	PSE
S2	Eng				Maths				L/N		Language		Science			Hst	Geo	MS	SOC	Mus		Dra	Art	BSt	CSt	CDT		HE	PE		RE	PSE
S3	Eng				Maths				Choice1 (SS)				Choice2 (SCI)					Choice3			Choice4				Choice5				S3 Rot	PE		PSE
S4	Eng				Maths				Choice1 (SS / Col)				Choice2 (SCI / Col)					Choice3			Choice4				Choice5				S4 Rot	PE		PSE
S5/6	Eng								Maths / Choice 1				Choice2 (College)							Choice3 (College)					Choice4					PE		PSE

A 32-period week

From 2026/27, the timetable uses 32 x 50-minute periods, with morning Tutor Time, two longer days and three shorter days. This supports a clear weekly structure and sustainable curriculum planning.

Choices and senior pathways

Course choice is a supported process. The aim is to agree a programme that offers appropriate challenge, clear progression and a credible route towards each learner's intended destination.

PATHWAY	KEY PRINCIPLES
S2 into S3/4	Seven subjects across S3/S4: English, Mathematics, at least one Social Subject, at least one Science, plus three further free choices. Guidance and faculty staff use attainment and progress information to support decisions.
S5	Learners normally study a minimum of five subjects. English forms part of the normal S5 programme. College and other partnership options may be available.
S6	The normal programme is five subjects. Four subjects may be agreed when all four are at SCQF Level 6 or above; three subjects may be agreed where all three are at SCQF Level 7.

Course recommendations draw on attainment, current working level, professional judgement, progression information and, where relevant, attendance, engagement and independent learning. Non-standard choices are reviewed carefully so that learners do not inadvertently close off future progression.

Parents and carers are encouraged to take an active role in course-choice decisions. Information, advice and support are available through Guidance Teachers, course-choice materials and opportunities to discuss individual pathways with school staff.

Partnership learning

Senior Phase pathways can include National Qualifications, Higher and Advanced Higher courses, National Progression Awards, Foundation Apprenticeships, Dundee & Angus College and other partnership opportunities. Availability can vary from year to year.

Current course-choice information: View the current course-choice information

Learning at Grove Academy

The Grove Academy Learning Pathway (GALP) describes the shared features of high-quality learning and teaching at Grove. It gives learners, staff and families a common language for discussing learning.



Five questions learners should be able to answer

1. What am I learning?
2. Why am I learning it?
3. What level am I working at?
4. How do I know how well I am doing?
5. What do I need to do to improve?

GALP for learners and families: View the GALP guide for learners and families

Assessment, tracking and reporting

Assessment is part of everyday learning. Teachers use classroom evidence, tasks, discussion, questioning, formal assessments and professional judgement to understand progress, identify next steps and plan appropriate support and challenge.

Broad General Education

In S1-S3, progress is reported using Curriculum for Excellence levels and progress information. Departments moderate standards and use agreed progression frameworks to support consistent professional judgement.

Senior Phase

In S4-S6, tracking includes working grades and target grades alongside effort and behaviour. This supports learner conversations, intervention and course planning.

YEAR	HOW PROGRESS IS SHARED
S1	Settling-in report, short report, tracking update and parents' evening
S2	Full report, tracking updates and parents' evening
S3	Full report, tracking updates and parents' evening
S4	Full report, tracking updates and parents' evening
S5/6	Full report, tracking updates and parents' evening

Families receive reporting information during the year and can use Grove's parent-facing tracking arrangements to keep up to date with progress. Guidance and faculty staff may also contact families between formal reporting points where support or discussion is helpful.

Key dates and reporting calendar: View the current Key Dates page

Guidance and support

Pastoral Support at Grove Academy is organised through the House and Guidance system. Guidance Teachers are key adults who build an overview of each learner's progress, wellbeing, relationships, attendance, choices and future plans.

GROVE ACADEMY
Guidance Team

Dawson House	Gillies House	Orchar House	Reres House
Mrs Philip D1 classes	**Mrs Lauder** G1 classes	**Mrs Somers** O1 classes	**Mr Brown** R1 classes
Mrs Milne D2 classes	**Mr Redford** G2 classes	**Mrs Lowe** O2 classes	**Mrs Forbes** R2 classes
Mrs Scally 6D1 & 2D2			

Current team and allocations: see the live Guidance Team page on the Grove Academy website.

[View the current Guidance Team page]

Guidance Teachers can help with

- progress or engagement concerns
- friendships, relationships and wellbeing
- attendance and barriers to presence
- course choice and future pathways
- coordinating support with families and other staff
- transitions into, through and beyond Grove

How to contact a Guidance Teacher

You can contact your learner's Guidance Teacher directly or through the School Office. For non-urgent enquiries, the school aims to respond within three working days.

Additional support for learning

All staff share responsibility for inclusive practice. Many learners need additional support at some point in their education; support is planned in response to strengths, needs and barriers rather than labels alone.

Support may be provided in class, through small-group or individual work, through adjustments to learning and assessment, or through coordinated work with families and partner services. Plans can include an Additional Support Plan, Individualised Education Plan, School Involvement Plan, Child's Plan or, for a small number of learners with significant long-term needs, a Co-ordinated Support Plan.

If you think your learner needs additional support

Contact the Guidance Teacher or Support for Learning team. The school will consider available evidence, discuss next steps with the learner and family, and review the impact of support over time. Dundee City Council procedures are used for staged assessment and intervention.

Rights, review and independent advice

Dundee City Council publishes authority guidance on identifying and assessing additional support needs, planning support and Co-ordinated Support Plans (CSPs). Learners and families are involved in planning and reviewing support. Where disagreements cannot be resolved through discussion with the school or authority, independent mediation and formal dispute-resolution routes are available.

Independent information and advocacy

Enquire provides independent advice about additional support for learning (0345 123 2303, enquire.org.uk). Families can also use the Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance to find advocacy support (siaa.org.uk) and the Scottish Child Law Centre for free child-law advice (sclc.org.uk).

DCC Additional Support Needs: View the Dundee City Council Additional Support Needs information — assessment, CSPs, rights, mediation and dispute-resolution information

For authority-level advice, families can contact Dundee City Council's Education Support Officer (ASN) at jkerr836@dundeeschools.scot. Advice from NHS Tayside can be accessed through the relevant health professional; the NHS Tayside / Ninewells main switchboard is 01382 660111.

Safeguarding, health and wellbeing

Safeguarding and child protection are the responsibility of every member of staff. Grove Academy follows Dundee City Council and national child-protection procedures and takes a child-centred, rights-based approach.

If a learner shares a concern that suggests they or another child may be at risk, staff must pass this information to a Designated Child Protection Officer. Staff cannot promise to keep a safeguarding concern secret.

HOUSE / ROLE	DESIGNATED CHILD PROTECTION OFFICERS
Dawson	Mrs Philip / Mrs Milne
Gillies	Mrs Lauder / Mr Redford
Orchar	Mrs Somers / Mrs Lowe
Reres	Mr Brown / Mrs Forbes
School leads	Mrs Barbour, DHT / Mr Woodcock, HT

Urgent child-protection concern
Contact Grove Academy immediately on 01382 436800. Dundee's 24-hour Child Protection line is 01382 307999. If a child is in immediate danger, call 999.

Health and wellbeing

Learners can seek help through Guidance, Support for Learning and other school support services. Where specialist or multi-agency support is appropriate, the school works with families and partner services through GIRFEC arrangements.

Grove Child Protection Policy: View the Grove Academy Child Protection Policy

Relationships and anti-bullying

Positive relationships are central to learning at Grove Academy. Our approach is restorative and inclusive: we seek to understand behaviour, repair harm, develop self-regulation and rebuild relationships while maintaining clear expectations and safety.

VALUE	WHAT IT MEANS
Commitment	Follow through on decisions and challenges, even when things become difficult.
Ambition	Strive to do the best we possibly can in everything we do.
Respect	Value everyone in our school community and treat them as we would like to be treated.
Equity	Ensure everyone has access to what they need to be successful.

Anti-bullying

Bullying behaviour is taken seriously. Learners are encouraged to speak to a trusted adult and families should contact Guidance if they have concerns. The school's anti-bullying approach is aligned with Dundee guidance and the principles of respect, inclusion and children's rights.

The school also works to ensure learning environments are safe and inclusive for all learners, including those with protected characteristics and additional support needs.

Relationship Policy: View the Grove Academy Relationship Policy

Phone Free School Environment

Grove Academy is a Phone Free School Environment. The arrangements are designed to reduce distraction, support face-to-face relationships and protect learning time while still allowing families to contact learners through the school when necessary.

WHEN	EXPECTATION
On arrival	Learners place their phone in their QuietCase and secure it.
During lessons and break	Phones remain secured and are not used.
At lunchtime	Learners who leave the school grounds may access their phone; learners remaining on site keep phones secured.
At the end of the day	Learners can access their phone when the school day has ended.
Forgotten QuietCase	The school office can provide a temporary solution or securely hold the phone.
Emergency / medical need	Families should contact the school office. Individual exceptions can be agreed where there is a specific need.

On educational visits or other off-site activities, staff may allow access to phones where this is appropriate to the activity and agreed arrangements.

Parent/Carer summary: View the Mobile Phone Parent/Carer Summary

Full Mobile Phone Policy: View the full Grove Academy Mobile Phone Policy

Attendance and Presence

At Grove Academy we use the language of Attendance and Presence. Being present means more than being in the building: it includes punctuality, readiness to learn, participation and connection with the school community.

If your child is absent

- Report the absence as early as possible through Parent Portal or by contacting the School Office.
- Contact the school on each day of absence unless an agreed period has already been recorded.
- Keep contact details and emergency contacts up to date.
- Where possible, arrange routine appointments and family holidays outside school time.

When attendance becomes a concern

The school uses a staged, supportive approach. Attendance below 90% will normally prompt review and intervention, while taking account of individual circumstances. Guidance and House teams work with learners and families to understand barriers and agree practical support.

Learners leaving school during the day for an appointment must follow the school's sign-out arrangements. Parents/carers should provide advance information whenever possible.

Grove Presence Policy: View the Grove Academy Presence Policy

Learner voice and leadership

Learners should have meaningful opportunities to influence their learning and the life of the school. Grove Academy develops participation through class and faculty feedback, focus groups, learner surveys, representative structures, Houses and leadership roles.

School Captains and learner leadership	What we expect
Senior learners contribute to school events, representation and improvement activity.	Learners are encouraged to express views respectfully, listen to others and take an active role in improving their school community.

- School Captains, House and other leadership opportunities.
- Learner representation and consultation on school improvement.
- Focus groups, surveys and evaluation of learning and teaching.
- Opportunities to lead clubs, activities, events and community work.

Rights and responsibility
Learner participation is part of Grove's wider commitment to children's rights, inclusion and the development of responsible, confident and effective contributors.

Learner Voice: View the Learner Voice page

Achievement and activities

Grove Academy offers a broad range of opportunities beyond the timetabled curriculum. These support interests, wellbeing, leadership, creativity, teamwork and skills for the future.

AREA	EXAMPLES
Sport & fitness	Hockey, rugby, football, girls' football and fitness, volleyball, badminton, netball, Fitness Friday and other activities.
Music & performing arts	Choir, wind band, guitar, rock band, traditional band, youth theatre, musical theatre and dance.
Clubs & interests	Art and design, science, history, debate, chess, philosophy, D&D/tabletop, languages, Gaelic, computing and other clubs.
Study support	Faculties provide supported study across a wide range of subjects. The live programme is published during the session.



The Grove Guarantee

Why it matters. Attainment - qualifications and course outcomes - remains central to future choices. Achievement matters too: the skills, experiences, leadership, participation and contribution that help learners grow and prepare for life beyond school. The Grove Guarantee gives every learner an equitable entitlement to opportunities beyond the classroom and makes this achievement visible and valued.

TAKE PART - Try new activities, experiences and opportunities.
GET READY - Build skills and experiences for your future.
STEP UP - Take responsibility, have a voice and lead others.
MAKE A DIFFERENCE - Help others and contribute to your school or community.

Globalbridge and employability skills

Globalbridge is the digital profile used to record and reflect on Grove Guarantee experiences, achievements and employability skills. Learners can build evidence of listening, speaking, problem solving, creativity, adapting, planning, leadership and teamwork alongside qualifications and other achievements. The profile can be shared by link to strengthen part-time and post-school job applications and to support college and UCAS applications, giving learners concrete examples of what they have done and the skills they have developed. View the globalbridge website



An up-to-date list of clubs and activities is included in our Weekly Family Bulletin. The latest issue can always be found on the main page of the school website.

Working with families

Families are partners in learning. Grove Academy uses several channels so that routine information, progress updates and opportunities to participate are accessible throughout the year.

CHANNEL	HOW IT IS USED
Reports and tracking	Short tracking updates and detailed reports are issued according to the school calendar.
Parents' evenings	Appointments are booked through SchoolCloud.
Day-to-day communication	Parent Portal, Groupcall text/email, school email, website, Jigsaw School app, Weekly Family Bulletin and Learning Community Newsletter.
Individual support	Guidance and faculties contact families as required; families can contact the school whenever they need support or clarification.
Consultation	Surveys, focus groups and consultations are used to gather family views on significant developments.

Parent Council

The Parent Council represents parents and carers and provides a route for involvement in school life and improvement. **Chairperson:** Tara Javed. **Email:** pcgroveacademy@dundee.npfs.org.uk

Concerns and complaints

Start with the member of staff closest to the issue - usually Guidance for an individual learner or the relevant Faculty for a subject matter. If the concern remains unresolved, ask for senior leadership involvement. Formal complaints can be made through Dundee City Council's complaints process.

Dundee City Council complaints: View the Dundee City Council complaints information

Supporting Learners at home

Families can support learning by encouraging positive attendance, discussing progress and next steps, reviewing tracking information and reports, and encouraging independent learning and participation in school life. The five GALP questions on page 11 provide a useful starting point for conversations about learning.

Practical information

School uniform

Grove Academy asks families to support a smart, simple school uniform that promotes belonging, equity and readiness for learning.

AREA	EXPECTATION
Everyday uniform	Black jumper, cardigan or hoodie without large branding; white shirt or blouse; school tie; black trousers, skirt or tailored shorts; black footwear.
PE - indoors	Black or white top; black shorts; leggings or tracksuit bottoms; clean trainers. Swimming items as required.
PE - outdoors	Black or white top; black shorts/leggings/tracksuit bottoms; jumper; appropriate outdoor trainers.



Meals and support with costs

School meals are available each day. Learners may bring a packed lunch. Families who may be eligible for free school meals or a school clothing grant should use Dundee City Council's current application information; eligibility and rates can change.

Grove is committed to reducing financial barriers to participation. If costs associated with learning, trips, uniform or activities are creating difficulty, contact Guidance or the school office confidentially so that available support can be explored.

DCC school meals: View the Dundee City Council school meals information

DCC school clothing grants: View the Dundee City Council school clothing grants information

More practical information

Appointments and leaving during the day

Where possible, appointments should be arranged outside school hours. If a learner needs to leave during the day, families should notify the school in advance and the learner must follow the school's sign-out procedure. Younger learners may need to be collected depending on the circumstances.

Accident or illness at school

If a learner becomes unwell or has an accident, the school will contact a parent/carer or emergency contact. It is essential that the school has current telephone numbers and emergency-contact details.

Emergency closure / severe weather

If the school cannot operate normally, information will be shared through the school's established communication channels and Dundee City Council updates. Families should not assume that the school is closed unless this has been confirmed.

Placing requests

Families who live outwith Grove's catchment can apply through Dundee City Council's placing-request process. The Council publishes current guidance, deadlines and appeal information online.

DCC enrolment and placing requests: View the Dundee City Council enrolment and placing requests page

Preparing to leave Grove Academy

Planning for life beyond school develops throughout the learner journey. Guidance, faculties and partners help learners connect their subject choices, wider skills and experiences with future education, training and employment.

- careers education and individual planning
- Skills Development Scotland and My World of Work
- college and university pathways
- apprenticeships, Foundation Apprenticeships and training
- employment, work-related learning and employability
- support with applications, references and transition arrangements

Learners considering college, university or other post-school options should use Guidance and relevant partner advice early. Senior Phase course choices are reviewed in relation to intended destinations so that required qualifications and progression routes are considered.

Financial support in the Senior Phase

Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) may be available to eligible learners aged 16-19 who remain in education. Eligibility criteria and application arrangements are published by Dundee City Council and can change from year to year.

DCC Education Maintenance Allowance: View the Dundee City Council EMA information — current 2026/27 eligibility and application information

Skills Development Scotland: View the Skills Development Scotland website

School improvement and performance

Our progress

Grove Academy is committed to continuous improvement, building on our strengths and using evidence from attainment data, learner, staff and parental feedback, and ongoing self-evaluation to identify areas for development. We have made significant progress in raising attainment, particularly in S4, and in developing a consistent approach to high-quality learning and teaching through the Grove Academy Learning Pathway (GALP).

Our improvement priorities

Our improvement priorities for 2026/27 focus on Learning, Teaching and Assessment; Wellbeing, Inclusion and Equity; Attainment and Achievement; and School Ethos. These priorities reflect our commitment to improving outcomes and ensuring equitable opportunities for all learners.

Working with families

Parents and carers are encouraged to contribute to school improvement through consultations, surveys, the Parent Council and ongoing dialogue with the school. Our latest published School Improvement Report and current improvement priorities are available on the school website.

School improvement: View our School Improvement Reports and Plans

National performance information: View the Scottish School Information Dashboard

Policies and useful links

The handbook summarises key arrangements. Full policies and detailed guidance are kept online so that families can use the current version throughout the year.

Grove Academy website: View the Grove Academy website

Policy documents: View the Grove Academy policy documents

Course choice: View the current course-choice information

School improvement: View the School Improvement page

Guidance team: View the Guidance Team page

Faculties: View the Grove Academy faculties

Dundee City Council Education: View the Dundee City Council Education page

DCC Education publications: View the Dundee City Council Education publications

Scottish Government School Handbook guidance: View the Scottish Government school handbook guidance

Sensitive curricular content and religious observance

Families will be informed about sensitive aspects of learning where appropriate and should contact Guidance if they have questions. Religious and moral education and religious observance form part of school life; parents/carers have statutory rights regarding withdrawal and should contact the Head Teacher to discuss arrangements.

KEEP IN TOUCH

Contact Grove Academy

Grove Academy

24 Claypotts Road
Broughty Ferry
Dundee DD5 1AB
01382 436800
groveacademy@dundeeschools.scot

Online

View the Grove Academy website

Current policies, course-choice information, school improvement documents, news and key dates are maintained on the website.

This handbook is reviewed annually. Printed copies are available on request. If you require it in an alternative format or language, or need support to access the information, please contact the school office. Reasonable requests will be supported through Dundee City Council arrangements.

Commitment | Ambition | Respect | Equity