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Grange academy kilmarnock handbook

1 Grange Academy Handbook 2021-22 Grange Academy Beech Avenue Kilmarnock KA1 2EW Telephone: 01563 549988 E-mail: School Website: School Twitter: @Grange_Academy1 School App: This can be downloaded by searching, School App for Parents Satchel One: (formerly Show my Homework) Denominational Status: Non-denominational School Roll: 1289 (age 11-18) Further Information: Our Vision At the heart of everything we do here at Grange Academy is our shared belief that each young person is unique and we aim to Get It Right for Every Child.2 We strive to positively develop the mental, emotional, social and physical wellbeing of everyone within our School community by fostering a safe, caring, supportive and purposeful environment that enables the development of positive relationships based on mutual respect. Acknowledging that each young person is equally valued, we aim to provide them with opportunities which will develop their knowledge, skills, confidence, beliefs and values to meet the challenges of our ever changing world. With an ongoing focus on our core values of Respect, Responsibility, Resilience, Excellence & Ambition we are capable of being.3 Robert Johnston Head Teacher Our Values The motto on our School badge reads Bono Animo Esto which means Be of Good Courage . This encouragement to go about our lives in a spirit of positivity and grit reflects our ethos here at Grange Academy and underpins our core values of RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY, RESILIENCE, EXCELLENCE & AMBITION as we strive to become the people we are capable of being. RESPECT We treat others as we wish to be treated. RESILIENCE We are committed to building strength of character and positive attitudes.4 RESPONSIBILITY Our future is not out there waiting for us, we create it. EXCELLENCE AND AMBITION We know excellence is not being the best; it is doing our best. We dare to dream and work hard for our goals. 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Although Grange Academy serves the catchment areas of Bonnyton, town centre, Gargieston, Shortlees, Hillhead, Longpark and Crosshouse areas of Kilmarnock, the school has also served pupils from other areas across Ayrshire from primary schools including Beith (in Beith, North Ayrshire, Moorpark (Irvine, North Ayrshire), Struthers (Troon), Kilmaurs, Onthank (Kilmarnock), West, Kingcase (Prestwick), Sacred Heart (Girvan), Whatriggs (Kilmarnock), Loanhead (Kilmarnock) and St Andrews (Kilmarnock) primaries.[4] These pupils would have been admitted to the school based upon successful placing requests as their residence and primary school is outwith the catchment area of Grange Academy. In June 2018, Grange Academy Maths teacher Chris Smith was announced as Scottish Teacher of the Year.[5] Grange Campus in September 2008, the new Grange Campus was completed and incorporated Grange Academy, Annanhill Primary School and Park School. The opening of the campus was pushed back from August 2008 to October 2008. The Grange Campus provides home to three schools; namely Annanhill Primary School, Grange Academy and Park School, which educates children with special needs. The teaching spaces are separate, but the games hall, assembly hall and dining area are shared. Built as a public-private partnership, the building was designed by Glasgow-based Archial Architects and constructed by a consortium, led by German contractor Hochtief, with two Paisley-based companies, Barr Construction and McLaughlin & Harvey. Completed in 2008, the site provides an education for up to 1800 pupils. Grange Academy is a six-year non-denominational secondary school with a roll is 1203 pupils and 80 staff (2015). The campus has its own dedicated police officer. The former Grange Academy building, opened in 1966, was demolished soon after the completion of the new school building in order to allow the construction and erection of new pitches and open area for pupils. Grange Academy plays host to a SRU 'School of Rugby'.[6] In 2012, the school was selected as the Ayrshire base for the Scottish Football Association's Performance Schools, a system devised to support the development of the best young talented footballers across the country (there are seven such schools across Scotland). As of 2018, the dedicated coach for the young players at Grange Academy is James Grady.[7] Capacity concerns Despite being a recent educational investment and new programme for building undertaken by East Ayrshire Council, in 2021 there were reports of Grange Academy and the wider Grange Campus being overcrowded and operating above the agreed capacity of students. Pupils in Annanhill Primary, also located within the Grange Campus, have claimed they feel unsafe, with claims of primary pupils having to share toilets with those attending the secondary school (Grange Academy). Due to the overcrowding, pupils from Annanhill Primary had to be taught in four classrooms housed in Grange Academy, meaning they also had to share other facilities such as toilet accommodations. In order to address concerns, East Ayrshire Council, the local authority in charge of the schools operations, have limited the pupil intake at Annanhill Primary in 2021 to address overcrowding and over capacity concerns, and also approved plans for the construction of two new modular classrooms for Annanhill Primary School.[8] The overall Grange campus has a capacity of 1860 pupils, but in 2021 there were 1953 pupils across the campus. Annanhill Primary has capacity for 459 pupils but the school had 526 in 2021. A spokesperson for East Ayrshire Council addressed the issue, saying 'The School Interior Management Plan (SIMP) has highlighted capacity issues within Grange Academy on an annual basis over a number of years, and it would be prudent to consider a more sustainable option, that safeguards the campus occupancy levels in the longer term.'[9] Head of Campus post Following the retirement of Robert Johnston from the post of Head Teacher, East Ayrshire Council appointed Scott Robertson, Head Teacher at nearby Loudoun Academy to succeed Johnston in the post of Head Teacher. As part of the appointment, as well as being Head Teacher of Grange Academy, Robertson shall be the Head of Campus, with direct responsibility for the daily operation of Grange Campus which includes Annanhill Primary School and Park School. A similar arrangement is in place at another East Ayrshire school, Robert Burns Academy, where the Head Teacher of the secondary school is also Head of Campus (Barony Campus) in Cumnock.[10][11] Scott Robertson was released from his duties as Head Teacher at Loudoun Academy on 5 March 2022 to take up the post at Grange Academy, allowing for a period of transition between him and Johnston before Johnston retired at the start of the Easter holidays.[12] School motto The motto for Grange Academy which is displayed on the school badge is 'Bono Animo Esto' which means 'Be of Good Courage'. This, the school says, is an encouragement for pupils to go about their lives in a spirit of positivity and grit which reflects the school ethos and underpins the core values of the school which are Respect, Responsibility, Resilience, Excellence and Ambition.[13] SFA Performance School Grange Academy is home to the Scottish Football Association performance school, one of seven schools in Scotland that have been operating since 2012 with the aim to support the development of Scotland's best young footballing talent. The Performance Schools programme is designed to give talented boys and girls, with the best potential to develop their abilities, the opportunity to practise football everyday within an educational environment.[14] Footballer Billy Gilmour previously attended Grange Academy and the SFA Performance School for four years between 2013 and 2017.[15] Notable former pupils See also: Category:People educated at Grange Academy, Kilmarnock Kirsty McCabe, weather forecaster Billy Gilmour, attended the SFA Academy at Grange, currently plays for Brighton and Hove Albion FC Harry Cochrane, Scottish footballer[16][17] Zoë Strachan, author References ↑ "P7-S1 Transition". 14 October 2018. ↑ "Huge changes at Ayrshire academies as two schools to get new head teachers". 3 March 2022. ↑ "Ayrshire schools ranked in 'gold standard' annual league table". 22 June 2022. ↑ "P7-S1 Transition". 14 June 2018. ↑ "Self-confessed maths geed crowned Scotland's "Teacher of the Year"". *dailyrecord*. 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