

# Courses

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Allerton Grange offers a wide choice of A Level options, the vast majority of which have 100% pass rate every year. Taught by specialists, you will be able to explore your chosen subjects, growing in independence and developing those essential skills to succeed.

As a small sixth form, we have excellent pastoral care and subject teachers who will go that extra mile to work with you and ensure you get those results you need.

The Sixth Form Team will help you every step of the way, from ensuring that you have made A Level choices to support you in your future ambitions to getting that university place, apprenticeship or job of your dreams. 99% of our students did just that last year.

Allerton Grange Sixth Form. Why settle for anything less?

## **Biology**

Biology is exciting! Its name is derived from the Greek words "bios" (life) and "logos" (study) and is often referred to as the 'study of life.' One of the greatest scientific feats of our era is the astonishing progress made in understanding the intricate machinery of life.

As you progress through your Biology course, you will study life from the smallest units, including genes and organelles, to whole ecosystems. You will be examining not just observations made, but the mechanisms behind them and will develop a wide range of transferrable skills including clear communication, data analysis and presentation.

We teach the AQA specification, further details of which can be found at: https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/as-and-a-level/biology-7401-7402

## **Entry Requirements:**

You should have a good range of GCSEs between levels 4 and 9, with a minimum of grade 5 in English Language and grade 5 in Maths. A grade 6 in Biology or grade 6,6 in Combined Science is essential.

## **Future Opportunities**

A Level Biology is a great choice for people who want a career in health and clinical professions, including Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Physiotherapy, Nursing and Forensic Science.

Many universities also offer biological science courses such as: Molecular Biology; Cell Biology; Biochemistry; Botany; Zoology; Parasitology; Marine science; Genetics; Immunology; Virology; Pharmacology; and many more. Employers look for a science A Level as an indication of analytical skills, so some Biology students choose careers in, for example, economics, business; the Civil Service; management and marketing.

#### **Business**

An OCR technical in Business will provide you with in depth knowledge of the business world. The aim of the qualification is to give you the tools to understand modern businesses and how they operate. The course covers four units that focus on how businesses make decisions and develop strategies to survive in an increasingly competitive environment. The course is particularly suited to students who enjoy discussion, problem solving and making recommendations.

We follow the OCR Cambridge Technical in Business. Further information can be found at: https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/cambridge-technicals/business/#level-3

The skills that you will develop will include: data manipulation and analysis, presenting arguments and justifying your decision making. You will also develop skills in the practical application of business strategies, models and theories. The final strand of the course will develop your entrepreneurial skills.

## **Entry Requirements**

You need to have a good range of GCSEs between levels 4 and 9, including a grade 4 in Maths and a grade 5 in English Language. No previous experience of qualifications in Business are necessary.

## **Future Opportunities**

This course is particularly suited to those who want to progress to a related discipline such as accounting, economics and management at university. It is also suitable for students who may wish to pursue careers which are also business related, as it will provide you with many essential skills.

## Chemistry

Chemistry is a rapidly expanding subject which allows us to understand the fundamental principles of science and has huge implications for the way we live our lives. A Level Chemistry is the ideal choice for those who have enjoyed the challenge of their GCSE course. Over the two years you will build upon the knowledge gained at GCSE and study three key areas: organic chemistry; inorganic chemistry and physical chemistry.

We teach the AQA specification, further details of which can be found at:

http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/as-and-a-level/chemistry-7404-7405

## **Entry Requirements**

You should have a good range of GCSEs between levels 4 and 9, with a minimum of grade 5 in English Language and grade 6 in Maths. A grade 6 in Chemistry or grade 6,6 in Combined Science is essential.

## **Future Opportunities**

Chemistry can open pathways to many careers either through a university or modern apprenticeship route. Examples of subjects where Chemistry is desirable are: Chemistry, Teaching, Chemical Engineer, Pharmacy, Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary, Biochemistry, Forensics.

Many employers look for a science A Level as an indication of analytical skills, so some Chemistry students choose careers in, for example, economics; business; the Civil Service; management and marketing.

#### Classical Civilisation

A Level Classical Civilisation allows you to study the culture, history, art and literature of Ancient Greece and Ancient Rome. It doesn't matter if you haven't studied Classics before; all you need is an interest in the ancient world! Classics is mainly only taught in private schools – studying this subject means you will have a qualification which is unusual and very highly regarded! You will acquire a sophisticated level of knowledge and understanding of the classical world through studying a range of ancient materials in their context.

We teach the OCR A Level in Classical Civilisation. The modules cover the oldest surviving works of literature, history, art, political corruption, religious beliefs, mythology and philosophy. We will read the epics of Homer and Virgil as well as looking at the works of Socrates, Livy, Suetonius and Ovid.

Further details can be found at: http://www.ocr.org.uk/ qualifications/as-a-level-gce-classical-civilisation-h008-h408from-2017/

## **Entry Requirements**

You need to have a good range of GCSEs between levels 4 and 9, including a grade 4 in Maths and a grade 5 in English Language. A grade 5 in GCSE Classical Civilisation or a grade 5 in Religious Studies, History and English Literature, which will give a strong foundation for the exploration of classical texts.

## **Future Opportunities**

Classics is a highly academic subject which is respected by top universities and employers. You will build skills in evaluation and analysis of evidence, communication and argument with students developing a critical understanding of the roots of modern society and culture. Classicists go on to many successful careers and a wide range of university courses including History, Law, Medicine and Architecture.

## **Computer Science**

Computer Science is a practical subject where you can apply the academic principles learned in the classroom to real-world systems. It's an intensely creative subject that combines invention and excitement, and can look at the natural world through a digital prism.

A Level study includes a focus on programming and computational thinking. It develops problem solving skills, as well as designing systems.

Further details about the course can be found on the OCR website at: http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-a-level-gce-computer-science-h046-h446-from-2015/

## **Entry Requirements**

You need to have a good range of GCSEs between levels 4 and 9, including a grade 4 in English and a grade 6 in Maths. A grade 4 in at least one Science subject and a background in GCSE Computing would be an advantage.

## **Future Opportunities**

This course will provide you with a range of transferable skills for areas such as Maths, Science and Design and Technology. Computer Science is a very creative subject and skills such as problem solving and analytical thinking will be central to the A Level.

## Criminology

How do we explain why people commit crime? What makes someone a serial killer? Criminologists have produced theoretical explanations of why people commit crime, but which is the most useful? How do we decide what behaviour is criminal? To what extent are we misled by our tastes in programmes and newspapers about crime? Who decides what behaviours should be against the law? Who gathers information about crime? Can this information be trusted? Can we trust our own instincts?

If these questions interest you, then Criminology A Level is for you. Study the criminal justice system and draw conclusions about the world we live in.

Further information about the course can be found at: http://wjec.co.uk/qualifications/criminology/criminology-level-3-from-2015/index.html

## **Entry Requirements**

A good range of GCSEs between grades 4 and 9, including English at grade 5 (or above), and Maths at grade 4 (or above).

## **Future Opportunities**

UCAS points will help you towards most university courses, but this choice is particularly helpful with careers in the legal profession.

#### **Drama and Theatre Studies**

The aim of the course is to inspire students to become independent theatre makers with the skills they need to go on to higher education, whether that is to study a course in drama and theatre or another subject. Drama will enable you to combine creative and analytical approaches in undertaking your studies.

It develops your capacity

- to work with rigour
- to communicate effectively
- to work collaboratively
- to use approaches from a range of disciplines
- to connect your studies to the world around you.

It connects both to its own professional context within the creative industries and provides a foundation for a whole range of careers.

In this course you will be given a range of opportunities to create theatre, both published text based and devised work. The course will help you to develop and apply an analytical understanding of Drama and Theatre. You will be required to analyse and evaluate your work as well as the work of others.

We study the Edexcel course at A Level. Further details can be found:

https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/drama-and-theatre-2016.html

## **Entry Requirements**

A good range of GCSEs between grades 4 and 9, including English and Maths at grade 4 (or above). You will have studied GCSE/BTEC Drama or will be an accomplished and competent performer.

## **Future Opportunities**

This course can form a good basis for a career not only in theatre performance, but in advertising, the film industry and even in events planning and promotion.

#### **Economics**

Economics is the study of the production, consumption and transfer of wealth. The A Level course explores microeconomic and macroeconomic topics through the idea of a market and its structures (monopoly, oligopoly and perfect competition). The course also covers concepts such as demand and supply, elasticity and market failure.

Modules are taught on economic growth, inflation, exchange rates and fiscal policy. Policies will be evaluated using theories and personal conclusions need to be drawn.

The course aims to develop a critical and evaluative approach, providing students with a language that allows them to understand that every decision is an economic decision and that all decisions have a consequence.

A keen interest in current affairs is important for this course.

We follow the Edexcel A Level specification: https:// qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/ economics-a-2015.html

## **Entry Requirements**

A good range of GCSEs at grades 4 to 9, including English and Maths at grade 5 (or above).

## **Future Opportunities**

Economics provides you with good analytical thinking skills which are sought after by universities and employers. This course is particularly suitable for students who want to go on and study Economics or a business-related qualification in higher education. Economics students often go into careers in marketing, human resources and management, or even running their own business.

## **English Language**

How is language used to exert power or to represent different groups in the media? How do children learn to speak? Does your gender affect how you use language? How is English used differently around Britain and around the world? How has technology affected the way we communicate? How do different social groups use language differently?

English language A level investigates all of these questions and more. In addition, you will have the opportunity to develop your own fiction and non-fiction writing.

The course is assessed by two exams in Year 13 and two pieces of coursework. The first is your own language investigation, which could be anything from how different ethnicities are represented in the media, to how language is used in court cases, to how a male and female celebrity use language in a daytime TV interview, etc.. The second is your own piece of original writing inspired by a style model of your own choice.

We follow the AQA specification. More can be found at: http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/as-and-a-level/english-language-7701-7702

## **Entry Requirements**

A good range of GCSEs between grades 4 and 9, including Maths at grade 4 (or above) and English Language at grade 5 (or above).

## **Future Opportunities**

As this course teaches you to analyse in depth, to articulate your thoughts clearly, and to think and write creatively, it provides you with skills that many universities and employers are looking for. This course is particularly suitable for students who wish to study, or have careers related to, English, linguistics, sociology, media studies or modern foreign languages.

## **English Literature**

On this course, you will have the chance to study and discuss some of the best novels, plays and poetry from the past, such as Othello, The Great Gatsby and Frankenstein. You will also have the opportunity to read the very latest literature in English from around the world. If you enjoy discussing literature you will love this course!

You will be part of the longest conversation of humanity. You will study how writers have explored the great questions: what is the meaning of life? What would we be willing to die for? How important is love? How has the human experience been different in different times and places, and for different groups of people?

The course is assessed by two exams in Year 13 and a coursework essay. For your coursework you will have the chance to choose your own individual text and essay question.

We follow the AQA specification. More can be found at: http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/as-and-a-level/english-literature-a-7711-7712

## **Entry Requirements**

A good range of GCSEs between grades 4 and 9, including Maths at grade 4 (or above) and English Language at grade 5 (or above).

## **Future Opportunities**

As English Literature teaches a range of valued skills such as analysing, constructing a coherent argument, selecting compelling evidence and thinking creatively, it is valued by a range of universities and employers. It is particularly useful for literary studies, law, history, journalism, drama, expressive arts, cultural studies and modern foreign languages.

#### Fine Art

Art at Allerton Grange is superb and provides opportunities for those with visual, creative and design interests. The A Level course has two components: a personal investigation including a personal study (essay) and an externally set assignment.

You will experiment using different media through drawings, print-making, mono-printing, screen-printing, etching and heat press, surface textures, dry and wet media, and explore different approaches from still life to landscape, focussing on individual artists and other sources of interest.

You are each encouraged in your own direction, using 1 to 1 tutorials to support your independence.

We follow the Edexcel Art course, which can be found at: https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/art-and-design-2015.html

## **Entry Requirements**

At least 5 GCSEs between grades 4 and 9, including English and Maths. A grade 5 (or above) in either Fine Art, Three Dimensional Design or Photography. Portfolio submissions from students who have not completed this subject at GCSE will be considered at the discretion of the subject teachers.

## **Future Opportunities**

Students studying Art at A Level often choose to study this subject at university or Art college.

There are a huge range of opportunities and careers available in the creative industries, including Graphic Designer, Product Designer, Furniture Designer, Fine Artist, Jewellery Designer, Textile Designer, employment within galleries and museums, schools and education.

#### French

French A Level builds on the language skills you acquired while studying for GCSE. This course will help you become more fluent and more knowledgeable about current affairs and the culture of French-speaking countries. You will be taught using a range of resources including published multi-media materials, magazines and authentic, online resources. Your French will improve through regular focused teaching, supported by weekly tutorials with the French Language Assistant.

A Level study covers a wide variety of topics, from current issues and politics in France, to French heritage, arts and society as a whole. We follow the AQA specification, which can be found at: http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/as-and-a-level/french-7652

## **Entry Requirements**

A good range of GCSEs at grades 4 to 9, including Maths at grade 4 (or above) and English at grade 5 (or above). Ideally you will have a grade 6 at GCSE level in French. You will need to be prepared to work hard and be brave enough to speak in French so that you can improve your spoken language.

## **Future Opportunities**

A Level French is a requirement for going on to take a degree in French. Being proficient in a second language gives a real boost to your career prospects. In an increasingly competitive job market, a qualification in a foreign language can make you stand out from the crowd. Specialist language occupations include working as a translator, interpreter or language teacher. However, with globalisation, a qualification in a language can also be advantageous in pursuing careers in areas you might not have thought of. These include tourism, entertainment, public relations and mass communication, international organisations, embassies, diplomatic service and publishing.

#### **Further Mathematics**

If you have enjoyed studying GCSE Maths, have an interest in Maths, Science or Engineering and enjoy the challenge of solving complex and exciting problems, then you should seriously consider studying Further Maths.

This is a stimulating and challenging course, which allows you to develop a range of skills including problem-solving, logical reasoning, communication and resilience.

Students with A Level Further Mathematics are in a significantly better position when it comes to Mathematics courses at university and in gaining a career in a variety of Mathematical professions.

We follow the Edexcel syllabus. More details can be found: https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/mathematics-2017.html

## **Entry Requirements**

A good range of GCSEs between grades 4 and 9, including grade 4 (or above) in English and grade 7(or above) in Maths.

## **Future Opportunities:**

The content covered by Further Maths A Level can be applied in many degree courses including Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Management, Economics, Business and Computer Science. Business and industry suffer from a shortage of trained mathematicians at every level. Even an AS level in Further Maths shows how well you can apply your skills to an unfamiliar situation, exactly the type of person universities and Employers are looking for.

## Geography

Geography is the bridge between the arts subjects and the world of science and this is an engaging and exciting option at A Level. It will challenge your perceptions about the world and will develop investigative and analytical skills as contemporary geographical issues are discussed.

The course explores the relationship between human populations with their physical environment at a variety of scales from local to global. Students will study both physical and human geography, including water and carbon cycles; glacial systems and landscapes; ecosystems under stress; global systems and global governance; and contemporary urban environments. Part of the course involves practical research, including a dedicated fieldwork option.

We follow the AQA specification; more details can be found at: http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/as-and-a-level/geography-703

## **Entry Requirements:**

A good range of GCSEs at grades 4 and 9, including Maths at grade 4 (or above) and grade 5 (or above) in English and Geography.

## **Future Opportunities:**

A qualification in Geography is an excellent preparation for a range of university courses, from geology and ecology to environmental science and urban planning. The skills you develop studying Geography are rich and varied, enabling you to do a variety of different jobs. Examples include cartography, forecasting, teaching, journalism, town planning, environmental law, data analysts, financial work, computer game design and many more.

#### German

German A Level builds on the language skills you acquired while studying for GCSE. This course will help you become more fluent and more knowledgeable about current affairs and the culture of German-speaking countries. You will be taught using a range of resources including published multi-media materials, magazines and authentic, online resources. Your German will improve through regular focused teaching, supported by weekly tutorials with the German Language Assistant.

A Level study covers a wide variety of topics, from current issues and politics in Germany, to German heritage, arts and society as a whole. We follow the AQA specification, which can be found at: http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/as-and-a-level/german-7662

## **Entry Requirements**

A good range of GCSEs at grades 4 to 9, including Maths at grade 4 (or above) and English at grade 5 (or above). Ideally you will have a grade 6 at GCSE level in German. You will need to be prepared to work hard and be brave enough to speak in German so that you can improve your spoken language.

## **Future Opportunities**

A Level German is a requirement for going on to take a degree in German. Being proficient in a second language gives a real boost to your career prospects. In an increasingly competitive job market, a qualification in a foreign language can make you stand out from the crowd. Specialist language occupations include working as a translator, interpreter or language teacher. However, with globalisation, a qualification in a language can also be advantageous in pursuing careers in areas you might not have thought of. These include tourism, entertainment, public relations and mass communication, international organisations, embassies, diplomatic service and publishing.

## Hairdressing

The VTCT Level 2 Certificate in Hairdressing Services (QCF) is a qualification that has been specifically designed to develop skills in; the creative skill of dressing women's hair. This course is for you if you may be looking to pursue a career in this industry.

The units that make up this qualification include the art of dressing hair, health & safety practice in the salon and working in the hair industry and more recently, a mandatory COVID-19 qualification.

The purpose of this qualification is to develop skills to a high level of occupational ability to enable you to perform their own services and assist others.

## **Entry Requirements:**

A desire to pursue a career in the hairdressing industry is required along with both English and Maths GCSEs at grade 4 (or above).

## **Future Opportunities:**

This course could lead to an apprenticeship in Hairdressing and once qualified, could lead to one of the following occupations:

Owner – Of your own Hair salon or Beauty salon. Hotels – Working in a hair or beauty salon in a hotel. Sports centre/Spa – Working in a hair and/or beauty salon at a sports centre or Spa. Theatre – Hair, make up and aesthetics for theatre shows. Media – Hair & Make up for magazine photo shoots. Film & Television – Hair & Make up for actors and actresses for the film and television. Sales Representative – Working as a rep' for companies such as L'Oréal, GHD, Rimmel, Mac. Store assistant – Working on a beauty counter in places such as Boots, Debenhams, Harvey Nicholls. Cruise – Working on a cruise, travelling the world as a hairdresser/beautician.

#### **Health and Social Care**

The BTEC National Diploma in Health and Social Care can be studied as either a Single Award (equivalent to 1 A Level) or a Double Award (equivalent to 2 A Levels).

This qualification will give you an understanding of the Health and Social Care sector, the role of Health and Social Care professions and the part they play in shaping and reacting to society. Viewing Health and Social Care services from the perspectives of a variety of stakeholders allows you to critically evaluate its effectiveness and engage in current debates.

The course is ideal for those who have an interest in Health and Social Care and are haven't chosen a career pathway.

More details can be found on the Edexcel website: http:// qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-nationals/ health-and-social-care-2016.html

## **Entry Requirements:**

A good range of GCSEs at grades 4 to 9, including a grade 4 (or above) in Maths and a grade 5 (or above) in English Language.

## **Future Opportunities:**

A BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Health and Social Care is designed to provide progression to a university degree as it gives you UCAS points for university applications. Alternatively, you can progress straight into employment. There are a variety of potential careers that you can explore, all of which will benefit from your studies, for example: care worker, nursery nurse, nurses, health care assistant, or occupational therapist.

## **History**

The History A Level offers an opportunity to study key aspects of the past in depth, allowing you to explore and challenge interpretations thoroughly.

In Year 12 we study political, economic and social developments in the 20th Century in both Britain and the USA. In Year 13 we complete coursework on Stalin's Russia.

We follow the Edexcel course and more details can be found at: https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/history-2016.html

The study of A Level History will involve reading, discussion and argument and requires a genuine interest in the past as well as high standards of literacy.

## **Entry Requirements:**

A good range of GCSEs at grades 4 to 9, including both History and English Language at grade 5 (or above) and Maths at grade 4 (or above).

## **Future Opportunities:**

A qualification in History is excellent preparation for a range of university courses and professions. History, law and journalism are common pathways for historians, but a rich understanding of the past can also add crucial context to the study of drama, music, art or literature.

## Information Technology (Cambridge Technical Introductory Diploma)

This qualification is not just about using computers, employers want people that can develop systems, analyse data or even develop applications. Therefore you will develop a range of specialist knowledge and transferable skills within the context of applied Information Technology (IT).

Students take five units, three are mandatory, two are optional (although chosen by your tutor) the qualification is split into 5 pathways:

- IT Infrastructure Technician
- Emerging Digital Technology Practitioner
- Application developer
- Data analyst

At Allerton Grange School, we follow the Emerging Digital Technology Practitioner pathway which allows learners to study and gain not just knowledge of systems but design and build them as well.

Further details can be found at: https://www.ocr.org.uk/ qualifications/cambridge-technicals/it-2016-suite/qualifications-ata-glance/#level-3

## **Entry Requirements**

You need to have a good range of GCSEs between grades 4 and 9 including English at grade 5 (or above) and Maths at grade 4 (or above).

## **Future Opportunities**

This course will provide you with a range of transferable skills for areas such as Maths, Science and Design and Technology and will help students that are studying in order to prepare for employment in the IT sector. This qualification is also good for students wishing to continue study in Higher Education.

#### Law

The study of law aims to empower you with the knowledge you need to become active and engaged citizens who question, challenge and bring about change in our society.

The course follows a variety of topics, from the workings of the legal system and laws themselves, to the application of those laws in areas such as tortious liability and criminal law.

Underpinning the course are central themes of justice, society and morality. You are encouraged to critically asses the Criminal Justice System and question who holds power and influence in our society and whose interests are being represented in the legal institutions in the UK.

The course follows the OCR specification: http://www.ocr.org.uk/ Images/315216-specification-accredited-a-level-gce-law-h415.pdf

## **Entry Requirements:**

A good range of GCSEs between grades 4 to 9 including English Language at grade 5 (or above).

## **Future Opportunities:**

A Law qualification is highly regarded by employers and universities. Law students have the opportunity to read a range a range of subjects at university, including Law, History, Accountancy, Business and English. Law is considered an academically rigorous A level and as such is recognised by all universities. Law is a useful background for many diverse careers from Journalism to Politics.

#### **Mathematics**

Do you enjoy a challenge and solving problems? Do you intend to study Science/Technology/Engineering subjects? If you have enjoyed studying GCSE Maths then you should seriously consider studying A Level Maths. Maths is a highly regarded A-Level which will offer you opportunities in everything from Business to Engineering to Finance. Maths offers excellent support for many university courses which may involve statistics and analysis modules.

A Level Maths builds on the knowledge and skills you learnt during your GCSE studies. It starts to introduce some complex and interesting ideas about the relationship between all aspects of maths and science.

Studying Maths gives you the skills and knowledge you need to solve problems and to model situations and can be applied to many careers.

The course covers mathematical topics such as integration, representing and analysing data and logarithms. We follow the Edexcel syllabus. More details can be found: https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/mathematics-2017.html

## **Entry Requirements:**

At least 5 GCSEs between grades 4 and 9, including English Language at grade 4 (or above) and Maths at grade 6 (or above).

## **Future Opportunities:**

Maths opens up opportunities in almost any area of study or employment including accounting, actuarial work, engineering, science, medicine and pharmaceuticals. Many University and Level 4 courses have a high maths and statistics content including social sciences, business and economics.

#### Music

Our A Level Music course covers a diverse and exciting world of music, which allows students to explore and discover a wide range of genres.

Students study the compulsory module Western classical tradition (1650-1910), and choose two options from Pop Music, Music for Media, Music for Theatre, Jazz, Contemporary Traditional Music, Art Music Since 1910.

Throughout the course we record performances and practise composition to develop your practical skills.

Similar to GCSE Music, students submit two compositions.

Composition 1 is to a brief and Composition 2 is a free composition, both need to be accompanied by a programme note of approximately 150 words. A minimum of 10 minutes of performance is also required and can be either solo, ensemble or a combination of both.

## **Entry Requirements**

At least 5 GCSEs between grades 4 and 9, including a minimum of grade 4 in English Language and Maths. The expectation is for grade 6 and above to have been attained in GCSE Music. You are also required to be a competent musician and are working towards vocal/instrumental grade 4/5, or an equivalent standard.

## **Further Opportunities**

A Level Music is not only suitable for someone who is interested in a career in Music. The skills gained from studying this course such as critical and analytical thinking, problem solving, creativity and teamwork can be applied to studying a range of subjects or careers in medicine, nursing, teaching, languages, business and the Police.

## **Photography**

Photography involves exploring a range of processes using lens and light based media including digital imaging, scanning and experimental darkroom processes.

The course begins with a clear focus on the importance of lighting, as well as compositional techniques. You are taken through a number of different approaches from still life to landscape, each time focussing on an individual artist as well as independently sourcing imagery which interests them.

If you are creative, good at design and considering a career in a creative field this course would be good for you. You should be a practical person who is happy to extend their studies outside of the classroom and work with independent frame of mind.

We follow the Edexcel specification for Photography, which can be found at: https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/ edexcel-a-levels/art-and-design-2015.html

## **Entry Requirements:**

At least 5 GCSEs between grades 4 and 9, including English and Maths. A grade 5 (or above) in either Fine Art, Three Dimensional Design or Photography. Portfolio submissions from students who have not completed this subject at GCSE will be considered at the discretion of the subject teachers.

## **Future Opportunities**

A significant number of students taking this course will go on to careers in the Art field. Students should be aware that for some degree courses with a largely academic rather than a creative focus (e.g. Science degrees) that photography may not add to their points for university entrance.

## **Physical Education**

If you have a keen interest in sport then this course will give you a greater depth of knowledge in many areas. You will look at how the body and the mind contribute to successful performance in sport and also investigate various factors that influence sport being an integral part of society today.

The practical aspect of the course recognises that quality performance in sport is more than just 'playing' and allows you to be assessed demonstrating skills in coaching and officiating.

## **Entry Requirements**

A good range of GCSEs at grades 4 to 9, including English and Maths. GCSE PE or equivalent is desirable but not essential.

## **Future Opportunities**

This qualification can lead to a number of career or university pathways in the realms of sport and physical activity. Examples are coaching and sport development, physical education, physical education with Qualified Teaching Status, sport therapy or physiotherapy, fitness instructor and other roles within the leisure industry.

## **Physics**

Physicists seek explanations for natural phenomena. This course will suit you if you want to find out how the world around us works, how different systems interact and what fundamental underlying principles govern these interactions. You will develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills: developing your practical skills is also a key part of the course and you will complete the practical endorsement as part of your studies.

You will study a range of topics that build upon your GCSE work; these include: Particles and Quantum Phenomena; Waves and Optics; Forces; Newton's Laws of Motion; Momentum; Work; Energy and Materials; Electricity and DC Circuits; Circular Motion; Simple Harmonic Motion; Thermal Physics and Gases; Gravitational Fields; Electric Fields; Capacitors; Magnetic Fields and Electromagnetic Induction; Radioactivity; Nuclear Energy and Astrophysics.

We teach the AQA specification, further details of which can be found at: https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/as-and-a-level/physics-7407-7408

## **Entry Requirements:**

You should have a good range of GCSEs between grades 4 and 9, with a minimum of grade 4 in English Language and grade 5 in Maths. A grade 6 in Physics or grade 6,6 in Combined Science is essential.

## **Future Opportunities:**

A qualification in Physics opens up the possibility of a very wide range of careers, from a degree in physics, engineering, medicine or medical physics, to a video game designer, a fashion technologist or a fighter pilot. The skills of in depth analysis and practical work will prove useful in future life.

#### **Politics**

Studying A Level Government and Politics involves the comparison and critical analysis of the UK and US systems of government and politics. ou will analyse and evaluate several core political ideologies and identify parallels, connections, similarities and differences between aspects of politics. You will develop a critical awareness of the changing nature of politics and the relationships between political ideas, political institutions and political processes.

A level Politics is inherently synoptic. The political knowledge, concepts, behaviours and institutions studied in any particular module can often be used and applied to new contexts in other parts of the course.

We follow the AQA A Level Politics syllabus. Further information can be found at https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/politics/specifications/AQA-7152-SP-2017.PDF

## **Entry requirements**

You need to have a good range of GCSEs at grades 4 to 9, including a grade 5 (or above) in English. You do not need to have studied politics, however a keen interest in current affairs is desirable.

## **Future opportunities**

This course is particularly suited to those who want to progress into journalism, History, Law and Economics.

## **Psychology**

Psychology allows you to develop an awareness of the complexities of individuals and how this influences all behaviour. By gaining knowledge on the varying perspectives, you are asked to consider the merits of these perspectives and how they can be challenged. This knowledge will allow learners to understand and explain a range of behaviours and topics and implement ways in which they can be investigated.

Through the use of real life examples and educational visits you will gain an understanding of the importance and application of psychology in the real world. This vast knowledge will allow them to objectively question behaviour at a deeper level, understanding that not everything is as it seems, and why?

Through studying it you will discover the answer to questions such as: How do we investigate behaviour? Why do we fall in love? Why do people forget? Why do people obey?

We follow the AQA specification, which can be found at: http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/psychology/as-and-a-level/psychology-7181-7182

## **Entry Requirements:**

A good range of GCSEs at grades 4 and 9, including English, Maths and Science at grade 5 (or above). You do not need to have studied psychology before but you should be able to show an interest in psychology and human behaviour.

## **Future Opportunities:**

Psychology is accepted as a suitable A level for a wide range of degree courses including Medicine. It is a useful qualification for anyone who is intending to follow a career that involves close interaction with people in any setting.

## **Religious Studies**

This AS and A level course involves studying Philosophy of Religion, Religion and Ethics and the study of Islam. You will study well known philosophical and ethical theories. These include the classical arguments for the existence of God, Evil and Suffering and Religious Experience. Through the Ethics component of the course students will study ethical theories such as Utilitarianism, Situation Ethics and Natural Law and how they apply to modern life.

Students look at the origins and development of Islam, the key beliefs and practices, and how they apply to religious life. Students will also study sacred texts and how they are used as a source of wisdom and authority.

Students are encouraged to think logically and develop their critical thinking skills, through the study and exploration of key writers and thinkers, both in group discussion and debate, and in assessed essays.

## **Entry Requirements:**

A good range of GCSEs at grades 4 to 9, including Maths at grade 4 (or above) and both English and Religious Studies at grade 5 (or above).

## **Future Opportunities:**

This qualification could lead to careers in the public sector such as teaching, counselling, social work, law and care work. The ethics side of the course would be extremely useful for those students wishing to undertake a career in Medicine and would complement a study of any science. A career in management, business, journalism and television would benefit from this qualification, to name but a few.

## Sociology

Sociology is the study of society and the way in which it operates and allows you to develop a framework for critically examining the social world. It asks fundamental questions on whether human action is determined or negotiated through agency. It asks difficult questions which should challenge your existing assumptions on the nature of social life.

The course covers exploration of the education system and culture and its influences on society and identity. You discover a variety of different perspectives using the topics of poverty, education, crime and global development as a focus. You will use theories and concepts to question the world around them, and ask questions of others.

If you have an open mind and are interested in the way in which people interact, then this course would suit you.

We follow the AQA specification, which can be found at: http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/as-and-a-level/sociology-7191-7192

## **Entry Requirements:**

A good range of GCSEs at grades 4 to 9, including English at grade 5 (or above) and Maths at grade 4 (or above).

## **Future Opportunities:**

Sociology provides you with good analytical thinking skills which are sought after by universities and employers. Many of our students follow degrees in sociology or combined degrees involving sociology at university.

## Spanish

Spanish A Level builds on the language skills you acquired while studying for GCSE. This course will help you become more fluent and more knowledgeable about current affairs and the culture of Spanish-speaking countries. You will be taught using a range of resources including published multi-media materials, magazines and authentic, online resources. Your Spanish will improve through regular focused teaching, supported by weekly tutorials with the Spanish Language Assistant.

## **Entry Requirements:**

A good range of GCSEs at grades 4 to 9, including English at grade 5 (or above) and Maths at grade 4 (or above). Ideally you will have a grade 6 at GCSE level in Spanish. You will need to be prepared to work hard and be brave enough to speak in Spanish so that you can improve your spoken language.

## **Future Opportunities:**

A Level Spanish is a requirement for going on to take a degree in Spanish. Being proficient in a second language gives a real boost to your career prospects. In an increasingly competitive job market, a qualification in a foreign language can make you stand out from the crowd. Specialist language occupations include working as a translator, interpreter or language teacher. However, with globalisation, a qualification in a language can also be advantageous in pursuing careers in areas you might not have thought of. These include tourism, entertainment, public relations and mass communication, international organisations, embassies, diplomatic service and publishing.

## **Three Dimensional Design**

Three dimensional Design is a specialist art and design endorsement which allows you to explore a range of art, craft and design practices to meet a specific need with sensitivity to both function and aesthetics. You will use the fantastic facilities available within the Technology department to realise the full potential of their ideas and designs through the application of appropriate technical processes.

Students will complete a practical personal study, building a portfolio of work over the course of two years, before also completing a practical exam project. They will also be expected to complete an exam project and a final practical outcome.

We follow the Edexcel specification for 3D Design, which can be found at: https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/art-and-design-2015.html

## **Entry Requirements:**

At least 5 GCSEs between grades 4 and 9, including English and Maths. A grade 5 (or above) in either Fine Art, Three Dimensional Design or Photography. Portfolio submissions from students who have not completed this subject at GCSE will be considered at the discretion of the subject teachers.

## **Future Opportunities**

Students completing this course can go on to complete courses in subjects such as Product Design, Furniture Design, or Theatrical set design.

#### **Admissions Statement**

Allerton Grange is an inclusive school. Applications to our Sixth Form are considered individually as part of our contextualised admissions process in order to encourage aspirational applications. Therefore, entry requirements may be adjusted in specific circumstances.

Where students do not meet the entry requirements to progress to Level 3 courses, or to enrol on specific subjects, a contextualised offer may be made. For example, we may make an offer where we will accept a grade 5 in English Literature in place of a grade 5 in English Language.

## Contextualised offers are made at the discretion of the Sixth Form team and are not guaranteed.

In line with UCAS, contextualised admissions are used at different stages of the application process to Allerton Grange Sixth Form, as part of a holistic assessment in order to:

- Inform a decision, including inviting them for advice and guidance meetings, contextual offers, and acknowledge 'near miss' applicants at enrolment
- identify applicants who may need additional support
- help assess applicants' eligibility for financial support



## Allerton Grange School

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Allerton Grange School



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