



Aspire, Grow, Succeed

The Curriculum

www.allertongrange.com

Welcome

At Allerton Grange, we provide an enjoyable learning experience with literacy and numeracy at its core. A wide variety of subjects are studied with specialist teachers.

We provide our students with a broad and balanced curriculum to develop their knowledge, understanding, skills and personal qualities so that they become:

- curious and independent learners
- confident and articulate individuals
- responsible citizens of the twenty-first century

As a parent or carer, you can be safe in the knowledge that we monitor, support and intervene, ensuring each individual's potential is rapidly developed so they achieve their very best. Full details of curriculum content in each year group can be found on our website.



The KLAS Curriculum

At Allerton Grange School, we believe that a successful curriculum empowers students and ensures they can understand the changing world around them.

Our rigorous knowledge-rich curriculum provides students with cultural literacy and allows them to understand the context of their learning, meaning that they do not just learn a list of facts. Through this focus on powerful knowledge, students also read widely and learn a range of crucial subject specific terminology.

Lessons at Allerton Grange are characterised by continuously high expectations and levels of challenge for all students. We believe that teaching of broad knowledge to all children is the single most effective way to narrow the achievement gap.

We believe in developing the whole child. Our curriculum, therefore, encompasses the wide range of enrichment opportunities available at Allerton Grange, from the performing arts and sports clubs to trips abroad. Ultimately, the Allerton Grange student aspires, grows and succeeds, going out into the world as a confident and intellectually curious member of society. This curriculum vision forms the basis of the Allerton Grange cornerstones.



English

Our English curriculum supports students to become powerful communicators. We place a huge emphasis on the importance of oracy, with our annual Public Speaking Competition now established as one of the highlights of the AGS calendar.

Our curriculum asks the question 'what does it mean to be human?' as our students study a range of fascinating poetry, prose, and drama texts. We carefully select a diverse range of both classic and contemporary texts to help students grapple with life's big issues, develop empathy, and consider the world around them both mindfully and analytically.

We also focus on the details, supporting students to master the important skills of creative and analytical reading and writing so that they experience success, whatever their starting point.

We help students prepare for life beyond the classroom, with opportunities for students to get involved in national competitions, from poetry to essay writing to public speaking and debating as well as theatre trips and visits to places of interest.

Both English Literature and English Language are highly respected A level choices by top universities. Our sixth form team love teaching our amazing A level students and we offer an exciting and supportive environment that helps students thrive and reach their dream university destinations and beyond.

Mathematics

As a core subject, Mathematics is fundamental to the success of pupils at Allerton Grange. Students are placed into groups roughly based on ability, but all students in a year group cover the same content, following the White Rose scheme from Years 7-10, working towards GCSE in Year 11.

We aim to inspire an understanding of Mathematics that incorporates 'mastery' of the subject and offers all students an enriched content. Our lessons are interactive and purposeful; we aim to develop the students' all-round skills such as problem solving, teamwork, communication and oracy.

As often as possible, Mathematics is applied to the real world in order to enhance Mathematical reasoning and to enable students to see where their learning applies outside of the classroom.

Our aim is to inspire students with a love of Mathematics, which encourages many to choose to take Mathematics to A-level, always one of the most popular in this school, and beyond towards an extensive variety of relevant university courses, apprenticeships and careers.



Science

Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 are taught science in ability sets. The comprehensive academic and engaging practical curriculum allows students to satisfy their curiosity about how the world around them works.

At GCSE, we offer a choice of pathways to study all 3 Sciences.

In **Biology**, hands on experience of dissection and field work are pivotal in giving pupils an understanding of how science works.

In **Chemistry**, we start with an understanding of the model of the atom and the periodic table of elements in order to appreciate the importance of chemical reactions.

In **Physics**, building circuits and firing off rockets complement an understanding of Newton's Laws of motion and the fundamental building blocks of matter.

Science at Allerton Grange provides our pupils with a sound knowledge of the subject which they can further explore in our Sixth Form and then at university.



History

Our students are taught how to carry out enquiries, from establishing a study focus to researching balanced and credible information which they then use to analyse and reach reasoned judgements.

History focuses on a stimulating range of topics designed to develop well-informed, curious and independent minds. Results are improving rapidly in History, where the national picture for the subject shows a decline.

Geography

In Geography, questions about our world are encouraged, discussed and challenged. Students learn more about their local area and discover more about other places in the world.

Students carry out enquiries; they establish a research question, design the methods to collect their data, use strategies to present their results and develop techniques to manipulate their findings, enabling them to find answers to complicated geographical issues. GCSE results are strong, with the percentage of students making better than expected progress being above national average.

Languages

In the age of globalisation, it is increasingly important that we can communicate in the major languages used across the world. Students taking Languages at Allerton Grange School gain GCSE and

Languages are thriving and the vast majority of students take them at GCSE, opting for **French**, **German**, or **Spanish**.

Learning occurs through a range of activities, including songs, video clips and ICT. Grammar and translation are taught as fundamental skills. We are also fortunate enough to have three language assistants, who are native speakers, to enable students to practise their conversational skills.

Languages also include a wide variety of enjoyable cultural experiences, such as trips abroad and participation in language competitions at the University of Leeds.



Art

Our talented Art Department encourage students to :

- Produce creative work, exploring their ideas and recording their experiences.
- Become proficient in drawing, painting, printmaking, 2D relief, using photoshop and sculpture.
- Explore different media with confidence. They will have a strong understanding of the formal elements and how to use this in their artwork.
- They will have a confident approach to how to use colour theory within their work and an understanding the rules of composition allowing them to produce outcomes with confidence.
- Evaluate and analyse creative works using the language of art, craft and design.
- Know about great artists, movements understand the historical and cultural developments of their art forms. They will be able to walk into an art gallery and recognise a range of key artists/pieces work. They will have an appreciation of the art around them.

At GCSE and A level students have the option to study Fine Art or Photography. In both courses students have a portfolio showing a sustained project evidencing the journey from initial engagement to the realisation of intentions and a selection of further work undertaken during the student's course of study.

Art in Allerton Grange has close links with local artists and Leeds Arts University we frequently work on collaborative projects to enrich the experiences of our students. We also provide trips to local, regional and national galleries so students have the opportunity to see live works of art, craft and design.

Classics

Classical Civilisation, more commonly known as Classics, is the study of Ancient Greece and Ancient Rome.

In Year 7, students are introduced to a broad range of foundational topics, including religion in Ancient Greece and Rome, the origins of Ancient Rome, the Roman monarchy, and the life and legacy of Julius Caesar.

In Year 8, the focus shifts to a deeper exploration of Ancient Greece, examining Athenian identity, the Acropolis, and key aspects of Greek beliefs and society.

In Year 9, students delve into Ancient Greek literature, with particular emphasis on epic narratives such as the The Iliad and The Odyssey, enriching their understanding of classical storytelling and its cultural impact.

We are proud to have a thriving GCSE and A-level cohort, with results consistently placing us among the top-performing schools nationally.



Computing and ICT

Computing at Allerton Grange empowers and enthuses students to develop Digital Literacy skills, practice logical thinking and problem-solving relevant to Computer Science, and gain knowledge of the use of Information Technology in the wider world. This ensures students are provided with the tools they require to succeed in the modern workplace and society.

Computer Science:

- How computers work with the use of data, hardware, software and networks.
- How computers can be used to perform computation. This includes problem solving (with abstraction and decomposition skills) to devise algorithms that can be programmed.

Information Technology:

- How computers are used in different sectors by individuals and organisations.
- The methods used to create digital artefacts such as presentations, spreadsheets and videos.

Digital Literacy:

- Skills and knowledge required to be an effective, safe and responsible user of a range of computer systems.

Design and Technology

Design and Technology is taught in a state of the art technology suite by dedicated and enthusiastic staff. We hope to encourage the next generation of Engineers, Fashion Designers, Caterers, Architects and Product Designers through our own love of making.

In Years 7 and 8, all students rotate across **Food**, **Textiles** and **Product Design** and then choose a specialism.

All three areas teach the principles of design, supporting students to develop skills, knowledge and the understanding of equipment. Collaborative work is important in this area and we encourage problem solving skills when looking at the needs of the consumer and how to adapt each product.

Students are enthusiastic and are supported by a variety of clubs after school. Industrial equipment, such as CAD/CAM design programmes are used regularly.



Drama

The KS3 curriculum in Drama is designed so that all students are given the opportunity to develop the 4C's of Drama: Confidence, Communication, Creativity and Collaboration. Developing these skills will not only ensure success in Drama, but will be invaluable in all aspects of their lives.

The curriculum is sequenced so that in Year 7, all students are taught fundamental Drama skills and techniques that will enable them to produce and perform high quality work throughout their time at AGS. Students will develop their voice and movement skills in a range of performance contexts such as storytelling theatre, slapstick and Greek chorus.

In Year 8 students will use the building blocks they have been taught in Year 7 to develop more sophisticated performances. They will study a range of contrasting styles including naturalism, documentary theatre and commedia dell'arte.

To further support a love and appreciation of all things theatre and performance we also run a number of extra-curricular activities in Drama including the KS3 Play, the main school production (from Y8 onwards), weekly Drama clubs, the Northern School of Contemporary Dance enrichment option, Drama Ambassadors and theatre trips to see a range of performances.

Music

In KS3, students learn about where music came from and how the musical elements have developed and ranged over a musical timeline from Ancient times in 8000 BC to create the music we know today.

In Year 7, students have the opportunity to develop and master skills through solo and group performance and composition tasks. These opportunities allow students to gain confidence, develop skills and learn how to appreciate music through listening and performing.

Students are required to play keyboards, to use tuned and un-tuned percussion, to sing and are also given opportunities to perform on their own instruments. In addition, students work in groups to compose music and perform pieces in front of the class.

Students will continue to develop their performance and music appreciation skills in Year 8, which in turn helps to increase their confidence. Students continue to play keyboards, tuned and un-tuned percussion, sing and are also given opportunities to perform on their own instruments.



Religious Studies

The Religious Studies curriculum at Allerton Grange School explores the four disciplines of Religious Studies in KS3.

In Year 7 students study theology and religion to develop an understanding of God and religious practice from both Abrahamic and Dharmic perspectives.

In Year 8 students study ethics where they look at a variety of normative ethical theories and how these are applied in real life situations and develop a clear understanding of deontological versus teleological theories, the difference between absolute and relative morality and where some of these theories come from. Students will also start to study the nuance of religion through lessons/units such as "Does religion treat women fairly?" where we look at stories and teachings about the role of women and how and why those stories impact the treatment of women today.

In Year 9 students approach some of the big philosophical questions such as "Does God exist?", "How do beliefs grapple with evil and suffering?", "Is Death the end?" They look at these questions from a variety of scholarly perspectives and learn to not only develop the skills of analysis and evaluation but also start to form their own opinions.

Personal, Social and Health Education

The dynamic PSHE curriculum at Allerton Grange has been developed to provide a deepening awareness as students move up through the school.

Our curriculum is centred around fundamental British values of respect, tolerance, individual liberty, rule of law and democracy. We cover topics from friendships and bullying, through to healthy lifestyles, online literacy, and becoming good citizens of our local and global communities.

PSHE is delivered in tutor times by our dedicated team of form tutors who ensure a safe and supportive learning environment. PSHE is also complimented by our assembly schedule and is mapped throughout the curriculum from Key Stage 3 to Key Stage 5.



Sports and Physical Education

The first two weeks of the Year 7 programme involve a baseline assessment of all students. The format for this is a carousel of activities, each with a different skill focus. After this, all students are set into single gender ability groups.

During Year 7 and 8, students then take part in a range of activities on rotation including: outdoor team games; indoor individual sports including badminton and table tennis; trampolining, dance and health and fitness using the fitness suite. In the summer term students are taught athletics and also participate in striking and fielding games, such as cricket and rounders.

Within the Year 9 curriculum, schemes of learning are more varied to accommodate the interests and ability of each group. Most groups will still follow a programme that includes outdoor team games, indoor individual sports and health and fitness, but they may also opt to do trampolining, dance or orienteering.

The schemes of learning aim to develop skills other than just performance-focused ones, for example focusing on coaching and leadership skills. In the summer term, students will continue with athletics and striking and fielding games.

Enrichment

A key part of our KLAS curriculum is a timetabled session of enrichment for all students in KS3. These are often delivered in conjunction with external providers, charities or community groups such as dance schools, community football groups and music schools. Students choose a range of activities from three different strands: commitment, community and creativity.

The community strand enables students to learn about the world around them. Activities include learning British Sign Language, designing gardens with the Royal Horticultural Society and St Gemma's Hospice Raising and Giving group.

The commitment strand enables students to develop skills across a number of weeks and encourages perseverance. Activities include Couch to 5k, Orienteering and First Aid.

The creative strand gives students opportunities to explore their creative skills in different mediums. Activities include Contemporary Dance, Crochet 101 and Origami.

All of the strands together help students to confidently develop a range of transferable skills such as resilience, teamwork, organisation and project management.





Allerton Grange School

Talbot Avenue
Leeds LS17 6SF

Tel: 0113 393 0304

Email: agadmin@allertongrange.com

Facebook [allertongrangeschool](https://www.facebook.com/allertongrangeschool)

X [@Allerton_Grange](https://twitter.com/Allerton_Grange)

www.allertongrange.com