



Aspire, Grow, Succeed

Beyond the Curriculum



Introduction

Starting secondary school is an exciting time and an ideal opportunity to try new things and to make new friends.

At Allerton Grange we strive to provide every student with a rich and aspirational enrichment opportunities. Our aspirational enrichment programme is a cornerstone of our KLAS curriculum and a driving force behind our vision to provide every student with the opportunity to succeed beyond school.

The expectation is that every student at Allerton Grange participates in our extra-curricular and enrichment programme. We have worked hard to put together an ever-growing calendar of enrichment that:

- provides opportunities to develop character and build resilience
- allows students to explore and learn new skills
- unlocks experiences that challenge and stretch students, pushing them to new limits
- encourages the making of new friends and the building of memories

To enable all students to develop these skills, enrichment opportunities are offered to all as part of the timetable in addition to an extensive programme after school.



Service & Leadership Programme

Employers recognise the importance, not only of academic excellence, but also personal skills such as teamwork, problem solving and resilience.

At Allerton Grange, to prepare learners for life beyond formal school learning, all students in KS3 (Years 7 to 9) take part in timetabled enrichment activities that have been designed by teachers to build these vital 'soft' skills.

Staff lead projects and workshops that fall under the broad categories of Creativity, Community and Challenge.

Throughout their time in Key Stage 3, students will take part in at least nine extended projects and will track their skills development.

Students develop their skills in communication, initiative, planning, self-management, discipline, mindfulness, numeracy, oracy and project management.



Examples of our Service & Leadership activities include:

Creativity	Commitment	Community
Braiding	AGS Orienteering	Beyond the Big Six
Ceramics & the Sea	Couch to 5k	British Sign Language
Contemporary Dance	Essential Economics	Business & Enterprise
Crafty Mindfulness	First Aid	Camping Gadgets
Crochet 101	Football	Charity Fundraising
Dig School	Geographical Debates	Culture Club
Creative Science	Introduction to Japan	Glorious Gardening
Film Club	Life Fitness	RHS Design A Garden
Film Studies	Maths Puzzles	Science Communication
Formula One	Netball	Software Dev Team
Mindfulness	Personal Interest Project	St Gemma's Hospice
Mood Board & Model	Pilates	The Rest is History
Origami	Poetry Performance	



Drama

Our Drama department is a constant hive of activity with plenty of opportunities for students to take part in productions, whether that is by performing on stage, learning how to be a technician responsible for lighting and sound, or even supporting backstage with costuming and make-up. Students are also able to write pieces for performance and get involved with directing.

There are several performances occur each year including a school musical, which is always the highlight of the school year.

We are a partnership school with the Arts & Humanities Faculty at the University of Leeds and the Northern School of Contemporary Dance, who provide workshops and performances for our students. We work with companies such as Paper Birds, Frantic Assembly and Splendid Productions to give our students opportunities to deepen their understanding of the drama and performance industries.

There are countless opportunities to go and watch drama locally and nationally. In the past year, we have attended performances at Leeds Playhouse, Leeds Grand Theatre, York Theatre Royal and Manchester Royal Exchange, as well as a residential visit to London's West End.



Music

We are incredibly proud of the quality and diversity of music at Allerton Grange. Our performance schedule is always busy with no fewer than 6 major concerts and musicals each year, involving a wide range of musicians in all year groups. It is no surprise that we were awarded the prestigious **Leeds Music Education Partnership Music Champion** school status.

As a school, we value music as an important skill, so we subsidise the cost of instrumental lessons to make this affordable. Consequently, many students at Allerton Grange choose to take up an instrument and achieve graded music qualifications. Our visiting instrumental teachers cover traditional instruments, such as brass, strings, woodwind, piano and voice; they also provide lessons in very popular instruments like drums, guitar, dhol, steel pans and keyboards.

Our vibrant music department is always a busy place to be. There are a variety of bands and choirs rehearsing and performing regularly, including Rock Band, Steel Band, Samba Band, String Group, Wind Band, Brass Band and Pop Choir. Students frequently form their own bands.

Students also form their own bands and make use of the music practice rooms during break times and after school. This year, Allerton Grange band 'Yacht Club' competed against 11 other schools to win the Red Kite Alliance Battle of the Bands competition.

Our musicians perform regularly in the community, both locally and internationally. Each July, our musicians tour somewhere in Europe; in 2023 they visited Belgium and in 2024 the tour travelled to France, including an unforgettable performance at Disneyland Paris!



Disney PERFORMING ARTS



Sport

Sport is an important part of life at Allerton Grange; our fantastic facilities mean that we can compete at the highest levels as well as offering recreational sports clubs and the use of our superb fitness suite to all students.

We work regularly with professional clubs and are lucky enough to have players delivering some training sessions as well as aspirational talks. We have good connections with Leeds Rhinos, and Leeds United, amongst others.

Competition is taken seriously; we field teams in rugby, football, netball, basketball, cricket, rounders and athletics and are delighted with the excellent results our students achieve.

The variety of sports on offer at Allerton Grange is vast. Racquet sports sessions, especially badminton and tennis, are in high demand, as are trampolining, table tennis, basketball, dance and becoming proficient on our climbing wall.

Outside of school, we have students successfully competing at county level in a range of sports and also for England and Team GB.

We currently have students performing at a high level in swimming, rugby, football, gymnastics and martial arts including kickboxing.

Our PE staff also organise trips to sporting events in the UK and overseas. Allerton Grange students have enjoyed Wimbledon, rugby matches at Headingley Stadium, as well as trips to world-class events including England women's football at Elland Road. Year 8 students have the opportunity to go on a PGL residential, and last year our netballers took part in a tournament in Paris.



Art and Photography

We have many enrichment opportunities for students to explore their creativity in art and photography, beginning with 3 'drop in' sessions after school where students can develop their own interests and skills in both art and digital photography with specialist staff support.

Periodically, we have artists in residence and their masterclasses have produced stunning results and been displayed at Leeds University. Si Smith has also visited school and worked on Lino Printing with a range of students.

The art department works closely with Leeds University and Leeds Arts University. There are opportunities to attend development workshops on site at the Arts University in the holidays, photography workshops and drawing classes.

We make the most of living in Leeds, exploring city architecture and working with local artists. However, we also travel further afield, enjoying trips to the Tate in both London and Liverpool.

At the end of each year, we celebrate the artistic achievements of our students in a fantastic exhibition open to the public.



Duke of Edinburgh

Allerton Grange School has proudly offered the opportunity for students to take part in The Duke of Edinburgh award for the last 10 years. The Award is in demand year after year as the skills and experience it provides is invaluable. We currently have 140 students enrolled to take part in the Bronze Award this year.

Students enrol for Bronze Level in year 9, the Silver Level in year 10 and Gold in year 12. At present we have pupils from years 9 to 12 on the scheme working at Bronze, Silver and Gold levels. We work closely with Ian and Rachel Turnbull from Mid Yorks Expeditions Community Interest Company who, as DofE Approved Activity Providers, run all of the training and expeditions.

Reasons to get involved

Recent surveys suggest that increasingly employers are not just looking for good qualifications but evidence of the following personal qualities: leadership, teamwork, self-motivation, communication, confidence, consideration and the ability to learn. Of all the activities carried out by schools, the D of E Award came out top in the ability to demonstrate and develop these qualities. So doing the Duke of Edinburgh award is:

- Excellent evidence for CVs, job and university applications.
- It's great fun, very rewarding and a fantastic way of gaining confidence and skills in new areas.



Enrichment trips

Education is more than just learning in the classroom. We have a wealth of enriching opportunities on our doorstep and in the world beyond Leeds.

All students will have the opportunity to enjoy a range of trips during their time at Allerton Grange.

Below are a selection of recent trips:

- End of year Enrichment Trips for all year groups
- Ski Trip to northern Italy
- French Trip to Normandy
- German Trip to the Rhineland
- Year 12 Adventure Residential
- Leeds Pride
- GCSE and A-Level Drama London Theatre Residential
- Local Theatre Trips for Drama and English
- Geography field trips
- Visits to universities including Cambridge and Manchester
- Careers trips
- Girls Rugby trip to Headingley
- Year 7 Bushcraft Residential
- PE Residential
- Social Sciences Residential Trip to London
- Music Tour to France
- Wimbledon Trip





Other Clubs

Students are able to choose from a wide menu of other clubs and societies each week; the extra-curricular options at Allerton Grange mean that there is something for everyone.

Below are examples of clubs that were offered last year:

- Library/Book Club
- Samba Band
- Art Club
- Song Writing Club
- Junior and Senior Concert Band
- Neuroscience Club
- Drama Club
- Languages Club
- Chess Club
- Scrabble Club
- Boardgames Club
- GCSE Masterclasses
- Year 7 Netball
- Year 9 and 10 Boys Football
- Year 10 and 11 Basketball
- Year 9, 10 and 11 Fitness Club
- Year 8 Netball
- Girls Rugby
- Year 7 and 8 Football
- Year 9 and 10 Boys Rugby
- DJ Club
- Choir
- School of Rock
- Jazz Band
- Coding Club
- Darts Club
- Year 9 and 10 Netball
- Girls Football
- Year 11 Football
- Badminton
- Musical Pit Band
- Musical Cast



University and employer links

We have exceptionally good links with local universities and colleges including the University of Leeds, Leeds Beckett, Leeds Trinity, Bradford University and Huddersfield University. A bespoke Oxbridge and Russell Group programme actively supports our students to aim high and gives them opportunities to familiarise themselves with these institutions and be mentored by them.

Right from Year 7, students experience hands-on workshops at universities in different subject areas and fields, including the sciences, engineering and health. As students get older, opportunities exist to experience student life through university residentials and to learn more about university and apprenticeship pathways, so they can be supported to make informed decisions about their futures.

Visiting speakers are a regular occurrence. Lecturers and post-graduate university students enhance our curriculum, as do an ever-widening group of employers and alumni. Asda, KPMG, Unilever, Lloyds Bank, Labcorp, New Balance and Create Future are some examples of professional organisations who have recently worked with us. We also deliver a programme of workplace visits to further inspire our students.

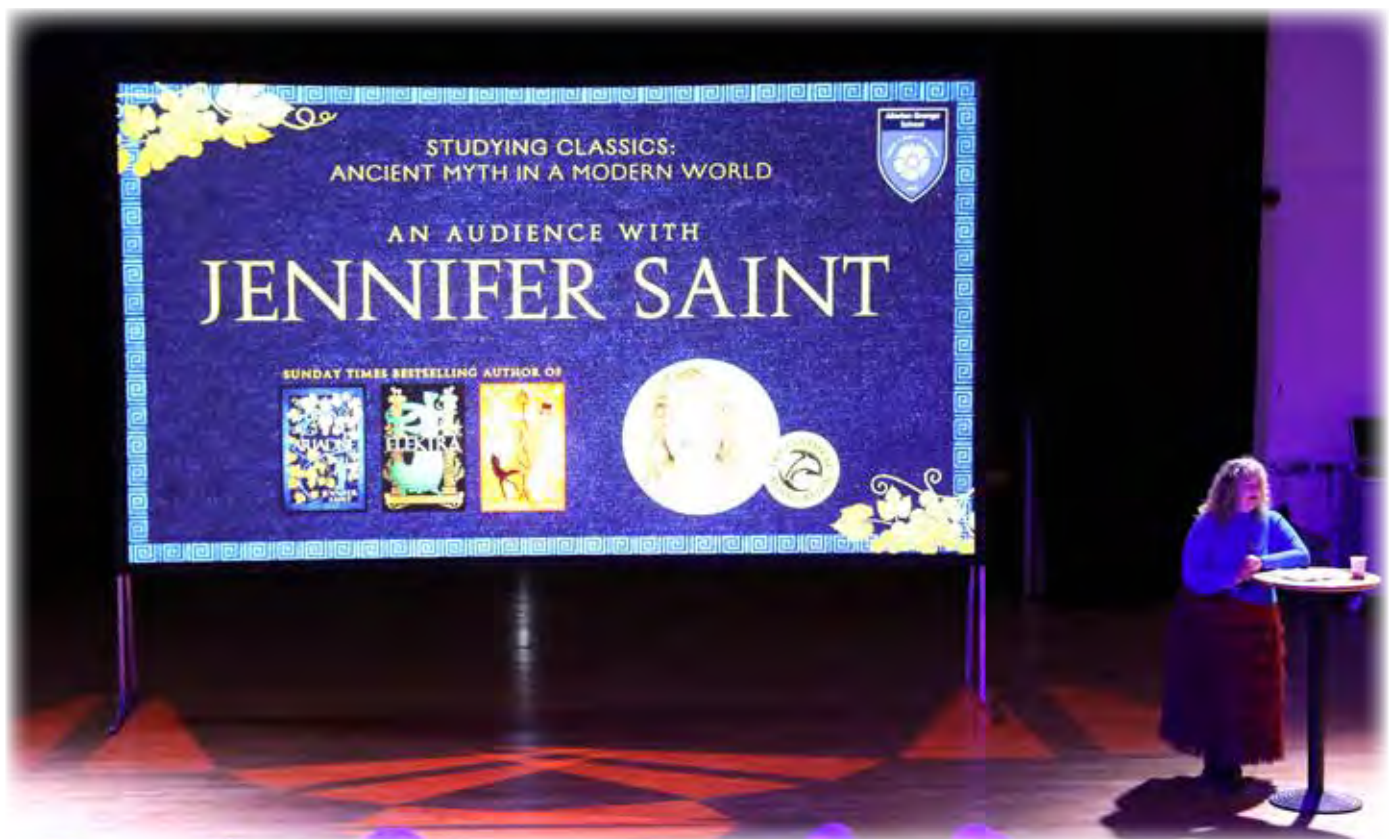


Academic Enrichment

All students will participate in enrichment opportunities through lectures, debates, and workshops: 'The Big Question' lecture series aims to get students and staff talking about some of life's big questions. The questions are closely linked with curriculum learning and personal development, sparking discussion and debate across all year groups.

DEAR lectures take place throughout the year, providing thought-provoking discussion on the themes, context or issues that arise through the DEAR novels.

Throughout their time at Allerton Grange, students hear talks from and participate in workshops with a range of inspirational speakers, including authors, university lecturers, scientists, journalists, politicians, and entrepreneurs.





LGBTQI School

In March 2019, Allerton Grange School was recognised as a trained LGBTQI school.

Barnardo's Positive Identities service delivered sessions in school to provide staff with the knowledge, confidence and resources to proactively challenge prejudice and discrimination. The training helps schools support LGBTQI pupils, staff and families to ensure their school environment and curriculum is inclusive of a diverse range of identities.

Allerton Grange was one of the 162 schools to receive the training which is funded by the Government Equalities Office and supported by the Department for Education.

Spectrum

Spectrum is an after-school club open to anyone in the LGBTQIA+ community. Our students say: "The staff and teachers are extremely welcoming. You can share as little or as much information about yourself with support for everything. It has been a safe place for many young members of the school. We do a variety of activities such as baking, art, and even more. We also talk about current school and out of school issues. It is a wonderful place full of wonderful people".

Leeds Pride

Allerton Grange is proud to be represented at the Leeds Pride Parade. Each year, a cohort of staff and students proudly march in the parade, showing our support for the LGBTQIA+ community. We are looking forward to attending again next year!



Leadership

Every student has the potential to become a leader.

At Allerton Grange, we offer plenty of opportunities for students to develop these critical life skills and grow as a person.

Examples of leadership roles include:

- Community Ambassadors
- Sports Leaders
- Well-being Ambassadors
- Attendance Ambassadors
- Lead Learners
- Reading Mentors
- Subject Ambassadors
- Student Librarians
- Student Council







Please visit our website at www.allertongrange.com, follow us on **Facebook** or **X (Twitter)**, or come and visit us to see our full range of extra-curricular and enrichment activities.