



allerton grange school

sixth form prospectus 2011–2012

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Welcome

to prospective Sixth Formers and their parents.

Starting a Sixth Form course is an important and often very rewarding stage in your life. Making the right choice of what and where you study really matters.

Our Sixth Form has a tremendous record of providing:

- high quality teaching
- 'adding value' by improving on students' Year 11 exam results
- careful monitoring of students' work and progress so that we know they are making the most of the opportunities on offer
- a supportive and caring ethos which recognises that Sixth Form students need good counselling, careers guidance and an opportunity to develop self reliance, responsibility and a wider view
- social activities, chances to make new friends and participate in activities such as fund raising and charity events.

Students value our Sixth Form and enjoy the excellent relationships and diverse community that we have to offer.

I hope you find this prospectus helps you to choose the right course and the best preparation for your future ambitions.

Rick Whittaker
Headteacher

sixth
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Why Allerton Grange?



There couldn't be a better time to join the Sixth Form at Allerton Grange.

We have:

- pride in the performance of our students with a continued high-value rating
- a wide range of courses for all students at all levels
- a beautiful new building only opened in September 2009
- a range of tremendous, state-of-the-art technological facilities
- a well-equipped, comfortable common room.

You will have:

- the respect that should be given to young adults
- the freedom to make your own choice of courses
- a careers service which will inform and back you in your life-choices
- a lively Sixth Form social calendar.

If you do decide to study at Allerton Grange, you'll have made a wise choice. Contribute to life in the Sixth Form and really enjoy it. These are the best years of your school life!

Mary Irving
Head of Sixth Form

Choosing your courses

The most important thing is to be honest about yourself and your ambitions.

Working in partnership with our careers staff, we can give you help and advice with your choices if you have a particular career in mind.

Ask yourself these questions while you are choosing your courses and subjects:

- Is this a course which will stretch you without breaking you?
- How interesting do you find the subject you're considering?
- If it is a subject you have already taken at school, how well have you done up to now?
- If you have a particular career in mind, what are the entry requirements?

As a general rule, A and AS Levels are seen by both employers and by universities and colleges as indicators of a particular level of academic ability and determination, rather than as vocational training. They want students who come into higher and further education with good results and study skills – and you will usually obtain better results if you have been studying a subject you enjoy.

Choose your subjects carefully. You will have a chance to ask the specialist teachers about their subjects at the **open evening on Wednesday 20th October** but if you miss this, please ask the Sixth Form

staff to arrange for you to chat to the right people.

Remember: if you are considering a degree course at college or university you will need a minimum of five A*–C grades at GCSE including English and Maths.

Course options

We have increased the number of courses we offer to bridge the gap between different levels of achievement. If you study one of the following with us or at one of the local colleges, it will give you the chance to access further education and help you to progress to Level 2 and 3 courses.

LEVEL 1 – Foundation Learning

- BTEC Introductory Diploma in Work Skills Level 1 – AGS
- ABC Level 1 Certificate in Motor Vehicle Studies – *Leeds City College*
- BTEC Introductory Certificate in Construction Level 1 – *Leeds College of Building*
- CACHE Level 1 Foundation Award in Caring for Children – *Leeds City College*
- BTEC Level 1 Diploma in Land and Environment (Animal Care) – *Leeds City College*
- Hair and Beauty – NCFE Certificate in Creative Crafts Level 1 – *Leeds City College*

If you are interested in these courses you must speak to either Mrs Irving or Mr Baker first. We will try to make an individual programme of study for you which will probably involve functional skills in English, Maths and ICT, as well as other qualifications that will increase your readiness for the work place or help you to step up to the next level of achievement.

LEVEL 2

- BTEC First Diploma ICT Level 2 – AGS
- BTEC Introductory Diploma in Construction Level 2 – *Leeds College of Building*
- Baking and Patisserie – NCFE Level 2 Extended Certificate in Creative Craft – *Leeds City College*
- Hair & Beauty Diploma Level 2 – *Leeds City College*
- IT Diploma Level 2 – *AGS & Leeds City College*
- Young Apprenticeship in Sport and Leisure Level 2 – *Leeds City College*
- Young Apprenticeship in Motor Vehicle Studies Level 2 – *Leeds City College*
- Young Apprenticeship in Hairdressing Level 2 – *Leeds City College*
- Young Apprenticeship in Construction Level 2 – *Leeds College of Building*

We can only run a course if there are enough students applying for it.

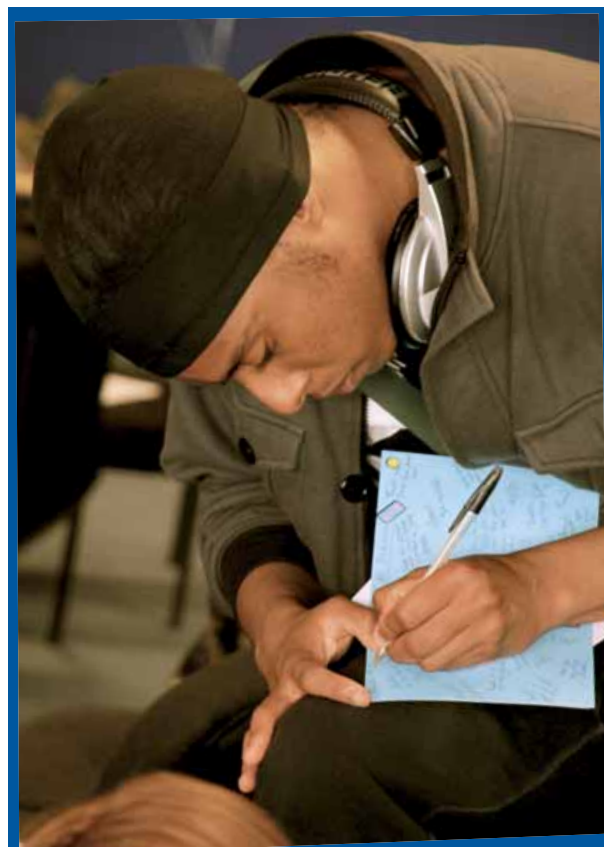
We will want to discuss other courses open to you that will work together to ensure that you have a full and valuable curriculum during your time with us. It may be possible to combine Level 2 courses with AS Levels.

LEVEL 3

There will be a vocational route at Level 3 for those students who have been studying BTEC Science at KS4. These may be:

- Level 3 Applied Science

Further information is available from Miss Myers, in the Science Curriculum area.



One year courses

LEVEL 1

This is a one year course equivalent to GCSE levels at grades D–G. You will usually take some units in Leisure and Tourism, Health, Business or ICT as well as studying Maths and English. We will decide on the exact content of the course in September to suit your requirements when you enrol.

There are no formal entry requirements for this course but you will be chosen by teacher recommendation and interview.

We will do everything we can to find an appropriate course for you to study. If we cannot offer you the course you require, we will work with local schools and colleges to find you training or education at an appropriate level. We are constantly expanding the courses we can offer at this level.

It may be possible for you to progress from a Level 1 to a Level 2 course in the following year.

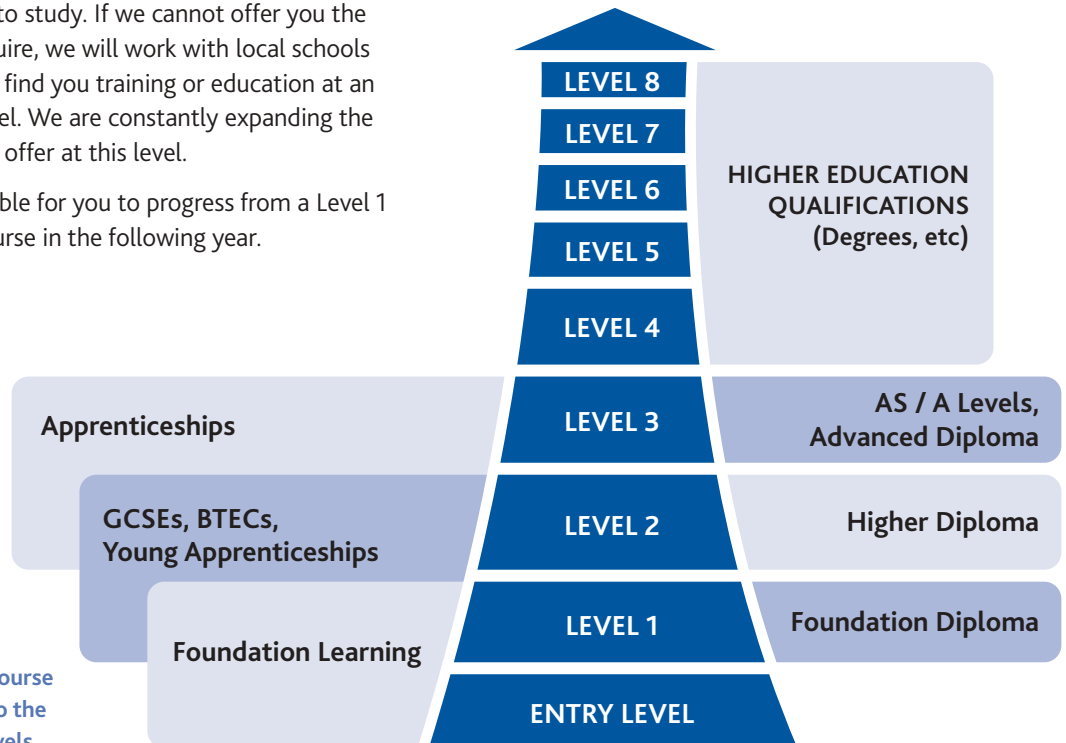
LEVEL 2

These are one year courses that are comparable to GCSEs at grades A to C. You can choose from courses in ICT, Health and Social Care or Business Studies.

Our entry requirements for these courses are a minimum of 20 points from GCSE to include at least two D grades.

It may be possible for you to progress from this course onto a Level 3 course in Year 13.

How different course options relate to the achievement levels



Two year courses

A and AS Level – LEVEL 3

One full A Level is made up of two parts, AS and A2, and is normally delivered through four modules. You would usually be expected to take the equivalent of at least four AS courses in Year 12 and three full A Levels in Year 13.



Other Level 3 Courses

Vocational courses at Level 3 are designed to provide a broad introduction to a subject in an applied context. You can take these as a single or a double A Level. If you take a vocational course that is the equivalent to 2 A Levels you may choose to take an additional AS Level, providing that it is possible to timetable this combination.

Entry requirements for Level 3 courses

- To take 3 AS subjects you need **4 GCSEs or the equivalent at Grade C and above** in at least 3 different subjects and 40 points.
- To take 4 AS subjects you need **5 GCSEs or the equivalent at Grade C and above** in at least 4 different subjects and 45 points.
- To take BTEC Level 3 (A Level equivalent) you need a **pass in Level 2 plus 2 GCSE grades at C or the equivalent** in other GCSE subjects and 40 points.

- To take BTEC Level 3 (3 A Level equivalent) or BTEC Level 3 (2 A Level equivalent + 1 AS) you need **merit in Level 2 plus 2 GCSE grades or the equivalent** in other GCSE subjects.
- To take BTEC or other Level 2 course, you need **20 points and 2 grades D and above** in 2 different subjects. This may lead to a Level 3 course the following year.
- If you have successfully achieved a **Merit in Level 2 plus 2 GCSE grades** and 45 points you will be considered for a double Applied A Level two year course starting in the following September.
- We expect any students who have not yet reached grade C or above at GCSE Maths and English to retake these exams in the first year of Sixth Form.

Descriptions of the Level 1, 2 and 3 courses at school are listed on the following pages. See page 35 for information on how to apply for Sixth Form.

This table shows the number of points you can get for each GCSE grade. Calculate the points you think you will get.

A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

ONE YEAR COURSES

Level 1

National Certificate

This is a one year full time course. It is work related.

What will I learn?

This course will give you time to improve your English and Maths and to get some idea of the areas that you might work in when you leave school. You might choose to learn something about Business or maybe Health and Social Care. You will definitely have some work

experience to find out what it's like in the real world. Some students choose shop work, others work in offices or schools.

What are the entry requirements?

You will have an interview with someone at school to see if this is really the course for you. We will also talk to teachers to see if they feel it would be the best thing for you to do.

How will I be assessed?

You will work on assignments with the help of a teacher and you will produce a portfolio of work. You may take some formal tests or exams in English or Maths.

Further opportunities

After completing the course you could go on to work. You may start as a trainee, possibly in a shop or other business. Alternatively, you could choose some other qualifications to take at school or college.





Level 2

BTEC First Diploma in Health and Social Care

This is a full-time, one-year vocational course. BTEC First Diploma in Health and Social Care is designed to provide a broad introduction to working in the sector and offer opportunities for accessing further study.

What will I learn?

All students study the following four units:

- Communication
- Individual rights
- Individual needs
- Ensuring safe environments

You also take four specialist units:

- Vocational Experience in a Health or Social Care Setting (this involves 60

hours of work experience)

- Health and Social Care Services
- Human Lifespan Development
- The Impact of Diet on Health

What are the entry requirements?

You should have a broad education, including a minimum of 20 points from GCSEs including two GCSEs graded D or above and, in addition, the interest and potential to succeed in achieving the qualification.

How will I be assessed?

Each unit is assessed by coursework. There will usually be 2 or 3 assignment tasks

for each unit. Each unit will be graded as Pass, Merit or Distinction. There are no external exams.

Future opportunities

With good grades, it is possible for you to progress to a higher level qualification. Successful students would also be able to enter initial employment, at a junior level, for example in registered care homes or hospitals, in occupational therapy, or in social work. With further training or study, students can go on to careers such as nursing or residential care management. One day per week will be spent on compulsory work placement throughout the course.

Business – BTEC First Certificate/Diploma (EDEXCEL)

This is a one year course at Level 2, the same level as GCSEs.

A BTEC First in business is a practical and a work-related course. You have a choice of either studying the subject at Certificate Level or Diploma Level. A Certificate is at the level of 2 GCSEs and the Diploma is at 4 GCSE level. The course will help you to develop your analysis and evaluation skills.

What will I learn?

At Certificate level you will learn about Investigating Business, People in Business and Financial Control. On the Diploma

you will study three more units including Customer Relations, Starting a New Business and Communication in Business

Entry requirements

You will be expected to achieve two D grades at GCSE and at least 20 points from your GCSEs or equivalent qualifications.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through assignment work that you undertake during the year and will be given an overall grade at the end of the year. There are no formal

exams. Certificate level requires you to complete three assignments and is the equivalent of two GCSE grades at A* to C. The Diploma requires six completed assignments and is the equivalent of four GCSE grades at A* to C.

Future opportunities

When you have completed the course, you can move on to a Level 3 course such as a BTEC National course. Some students will feel ready to find jobs in administration, customer service, or sales.

ICT – Level 2 Diploma for iMedia users

This is a full time, one year vocational course. On this course you will develop a wide range of ICT skills. It is equivalent to GCSE level. Assignments set throughout the course will relate clearly to the real world and will be useful for you in your one day per week work experience placement which is part of the course.

What will I learn?

During the course you will study the following modules:

- Digital Graphics
- Web Authoring
- Digital animation
- Interactive multimedia concepts

- Digital sound and video
- 2D game design
- Game design

Entry requirements

You must have at least a pass in ICT (OCR Nationals Level 2). You should have passed at least five other GCSEs including English and Maths, preferably at grade D or above. Where applicable, recommendations from your ICT teacher regarding your ability to meet deadlines will also be required.

How will I be assessed?

Assessments for the qualification are undertaken through a series of

coursework-based assignments. The assignments and work you provide are marked internally then verified by an external moderator. There is a large amount of coursework on this course and meeting deadlines is a prerequisite for passing.

Future opportunities

The course leads to further study in ICT or other Level 3 qualifications at college or school. To move on to the Level 3 at school you will have to reach an appropriate academic level. A number of students have gained full-time employment as a result of completing the course successfully.

TWO YEAR COURSES

Level 3

Choose up to four of the courses on the following pages 9 to 31 if you are taking A Levels (Level 3) courses and have over 45 points including five Cs at GCSE. You will automatically be given an extra subject, usually Citizenship, so you do not need to choose this as one of your four.

Art and Design: Fine Art

Art at Allerton Grange School is superb. This year the moderator commented that the work of our students in the Art Department was **outstanding**. Students doing A Level are consistently working at undergraduate level. Fine Art includes a wide range of techniques and approaches to making artwork, including painting and drawing, printmaking, sculpture and mixed media. In addition, you will use photography and ICT. Integral with the practical work is research into artists' work. Anyone who has visual, creative and design interests will find this course suitable for them.

What will I learn?

YEAR 12 (AS)

Unit 1 (Coursework) Drawing and Media Development and Artists. Research-directed study/foundation unit for the rest of the course (September–January).

Unit 2 (Exam) Work in response to a theme. Set by the exam board and personally responded to by the student

producing a unit of work culminating in an 8 hour timed piece (January–May).

YEAR 13 (A2)

Unit 3 (Coursework) Your personal choice of practical work on a chosen theme including a personal study (written and visual) Investigating an aspect of art (September–January).

Unit 4 (Exam) Working in response to a set theme. A unit of practical work and research culminating in a 12 hour timed piece in May (January–May).

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed by a mixture of coursework and exams. At both AS and A2 Level you will be assessed on your ability to work in response to a set theme. This unit of practical work and research culminates in the production of a timed piece in May.

Entry requirements

If you enjoy art and gain a grade A*–C at GCSE, these courses are for you. Grade C



or above in English is also required to cope with the written work at this level.

Future opportunities

A significant number of students move onto higher education to courses and occupations which include: Fine Art (2D and 3D), every kind of 'design' subject, Photography, Film, Architecture and History of Art and Design.

Art and Design: Photography

Lens and light-based media, includes works in film, video, digital imaging and light-sensitive materials. These techniques and processes can be used to create works related to other disciplines including web-based animations, photographic images in printed journals and light projections within theatrical or architectural spaces. If you are creative and good at design and considering a career in a creative field this course would be suitable for you. You should be a practical person who is happy to put in a lot of time to work on your own to develop your skills.

What will I learn?

This is a practical course so you will be learning through taking photographs and through lessons. You will learn about the theory, history and practice of photography. You will learn about producing photographs in a dark room and through using appropriate ICT programs to print photographs. You will study the work of other photographers.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through a mixture of coursework and exam work. You will have to look at the work of photographers and respond critically to their work.

YEAR 12 (AS)

Unit 1 (Coursework) A sustained and focused investigation involving a variety of photographic techniques.

Unit 2 (Exam) You will research the work of other photographers and create images in response to a theme set by the exam board.

YEAR 13 (A2)

Unit 3 (Coursework) You will need to develop your ideas and complete research to demonstrate a critical and analytical understanding. You will have to experiment with appropriate resources and media and be critical of your own visual work.

Unit 4 (Exam) You will need to respond creatively to a title set by the exam board.

Entry requirements

We would expect you to have at least a grade C in Art or Graphics at GCSE.

Future opportunities

A significant number of students taking this course will go on to careers in the creative industries. Students should be aware that some degree courses with an academic rather than creative focus (e.g. Science) may not accept Photography towards points for university entrance.



Biology

Biology is a course for you if you have an enquiring mind. It opens up the wonders of the living world from the smallest creatures to whole ecosystems. You would enjoy this course if you have a keen interest in living things and in doing practical work. To do well in Biology A Level you will need to work hard and do extra reading. You should be competent in GCSE English and Maths. Biology is a very versatile subject – as well as fitting in with the other sciences, it also complements Geography, Psychology and Maths.

What will I learn?

YEAR 12 (AS)

You will complete two theory modules. The first is 'Cells, Exchange and Transport', and the second module is 'Molecules, Biodiversity, Food and Health'.

YEAR 13 (A2)

You will complete two theory modules. The first is 'Communication, Homeostasis and Energy', and the second is 'Control, Genomes and Environment'.

How will I be assessed?

For AS and A2 Two 1 hour exams and an experimental skills test.

Entry requirements

Double Science GCSE or Single Biology at grade B or above.

Future opportunities

It opens up the possibility of all degrees in biological sciences as well as the opportunity to begin on a medical pathway. Future careers include Zoology, Medicine, Research and many more.

Business – BTEC Nationals Level 3

The BTEC Nationals Level 3 will give you the knowledge to understand the modern world. You will study a number of different units e.g. Business Environment, Introduction to Marketing and Business Communication. You will analyse real business situations and consider appropriate strategies which would help the business survive or grow. You will need to enjoy discussions and work independently with your teachers. You will develop skills like research, analysis, evaluation and critical thinking. By working independently you will continually apply your knowledge in a very real way.

What will I learn?

You will study a number of different units depending on what level you choose to study.

Entry requirements

A grade C in English and Maths is preferable. If you have completed the BTEC Business or the OCR Business Level 2 qualification we would expect a Merit grade.

How will I be assessed?

Through a combination of external exam and portfolio assignments which are based around an investigation of an actual business.

Future opportunities

For those who may wish to pursue a career in areas of business, the course will provide you with the essential skills that are highly respected in any field of work. You may choose to study at university level in related areas.

An alternative would be to go straight into work in a business or related field.

Business (Applied) – AS/A Level (OCR) 2 Year Course

Applied Business single Award provides you with an in-depth knowledge of the world of business. You will learn how a business builds strategies to survive in an increasingly competitive environment. Discussion and independent learning are essential. You will develop research skills, critical analysis and evaluation. You will be expected to investigate real businesses and develop proposals or plans to accommodate their business aims and objectives.

What will I learn?

You may study Creating a Marketing Proposal, Recruitment in the Workplace, Competitive Business Environment, Customer Services, Financial Services and Providers and Running an Enterprise Activity.

Entry Requirements

A grade C in English and Maths is preferable. If you have completed the BTEC Business we would expect you to have a Merit grade.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through a combination of external exam and

portfolio assignments which are based around an investigation of an actual business. You will get one A Level grade from this course.

Future opportunities

You should have developed excellent knowledge of businesses and the competitive environment in which they operate. This makes an excellent foundation for further study in this field or any related discipline such as accounting, and management at university. If you go straight into business, the course will provide you with the essential skills that are highly respected in any field of work.



Chemistry

Chemistry is the science of materials. It is about gases, liquids and solids, how they interact and how they are made. Think about plastics, pesticides and drugs, fireworks, fuels and explosives. Chemistry is everywhere!

What will I learn?

Topics in chemistry include atomic structure, bonding and the Periodic Table, rates of reactions, spectroscopy, organic synthesis and environmental chemistry. Practical work is used extensively throughout the course to illustrate key concepts and to enable you to develop technical and investigative skills.

Entry requirements

All students who study Chemistry will require a B in single Chemistry or BB in Double Science. Students should also have a keen interest in science, enjoy practical work and problem solving. Single Science is not enough to qualify for this course.

How will I be assessed?

YEAR 12 (AS)

You will complete two theory modules. The first is 'Atoms, Bonds and Groups', examined by a 1 hour written exam. The second is 'Chains, Energy and Resources', with an exam lasting 1 hour 45 minutes. You will also study an experimental skills module and complete three practical tasks set by OCR.

YEAR 13 (A2)

You will complete two theory modules. The first is 'Rings, Polymers and Analysis', examined by a 1 hour written exam. The second is 'Equilibria, Energetics and Elements' with an exam lasting 1 hour 45 minutes. You will also study an experimental skills module and complete three practical tasks set by OCR.

Future opportunities

Chemistry is a dynamic subject which opens many doors into careers such as medicine, forensic sciences, dentistry, veterinary science, environmental science, physiotherapy and food technology.

Citizenship

A Level Citizenship gives students the opportunity to gain an extra A Level qualification. It encourages students to think about the world around them and how influences such as the media, government, political parties and where they live affect their lives. It is a very 'hands on' subject, requiring students to use their own life experiences to consider a range of current affairs issues. In 2009 Allerton Grange achieved the best results in the country for AS Citizenship (Girls) as awarded by the Good Schools Guide.

What will I learn?

Over the two-year course you will look at a variety of different topics including:

- What it means to be British
- Are we all equal?
- Your rights, responsibilities and how they are protected
- Making a difference
- Crime and punishment
- The Government
- Universal human rights.

Entry requirements

Citizenship is an additional qualification

offered to all Two Year students. Students will need to be able to write in clear English and be able to critically assess new complex material.

How will I be assessed?

You will take four exams, two in Year 12 for AS and two in Year 13 for A2.

Future opportunities

Citizenship is a good opportunity for students to gain up to an additional 120 points at A Level. It is also a necessary requirement of the AQA Baccalaureate which we offer. It is a subject which demonstrates your breadth of knowledge about society.

English Language

A Level English language is a natural progression from GCSE English Language. Within the course, you will study the complexities of English grammar and how the English language is constructed and language theory and language use in social contexts. There is an opportunity for in-depth personal research.

What will I learn?

Self-expression, a love of language and independent thinking. Topics on the course range from Language and Gender to Language Change. More detail is available on the CAP website.

Entry requirements

A minimum GCSE English Language grade of C. You need the enthusiasm to read, enquire and write and an interest in doing the best you can by redrafting work until it reaches the highest standards.

How will I be assessed?

YEAR 12 (AS)

For AS Level, 60% of your marks come from a written exam and 40% from two pieces of coursework approximately 1,500 words each.

YEAR 13 (A2)

For A2, the assessment is similar but the 40% coursework is a 3,000 word study of your own choosing.

Future opportunities

A good pass in English A Level is essential if you want to study English at university and is desirable for many other subjects. A good knowledge of English is fundamental to all of the professions such as management, teaching, law or any aspect of the media. An in-depth ability to write for various purposes is essential for anyone interested in journalism, advertising, marketing and public relations.

English Literature

A Level English Literature is a natural progression from GCSE English Literature. You need to have a keen interest in reading and analysing texts and will gain many skills such as essay writing, formulating an argument and finding evidence to support this.

What will I learn?

In both years of the course you will study a range of great authors, past and present, writing in English. You will explore prose, poetry and drama and will begin to develop a sense of the context in which authors write and how their work relates to historical periods and political moments. You will have the opportunity

to show your own creative writing skills and to critique them. The 3,000 word study in Year 2 allows you to choose several contrasting texts and genres to study. This exercise is an excellent preparation for arts courses at University. More information is available on the CAP website.

Entry requirements

At least a grade C in English Language and English Literature.

How will I be assessed?

YEAR 12 (AS)

- One examination of 2½ hours on Poetry and Drama.

- One folder of coursework of 3,000 words, comprising a Prose Study and Creative Reading.

YEAR 13 (A2)

- One examination of 2½ hours on Poetry and Drama.
- One folder of coursework of 3,000 words comprising a Cross Genre and Period Study of three texts.

Future opportunities

You could go on to study English Literature at University level and the subject prepares you for studying a wide range of other subjects as diverse as Law, Marketing, American Studies or Cultural Studies.

Food Technology

Food Technology covers nutrition, food chemistry, design, marketing and industrial applications. This will be taught through coursework, theory sessions, experiments and practical sessions.

Though practical sessions are part of this course, it is not a catering course. You should be interested in food and issues surrounding food. Food Technology complements other technology subjects, science and business.

What will I learn?

You will learn some cooking techniques as well as a lot of theory about the science of nutrition and the way in which food is produced commercially. This course will also cover producing food, commercial considerations, health and safety and the science of food.

Entry requirements

GCSE Design and Technology at grade C (Food is an advantage, but not an essential – other GCSE technology subjects would be appropriate). GCSE Science, English and Maths at Grade C are all necessary. Students thinking

of applying for this course should be interested in food and prepared to practise techniques outside the classroom. The course is very scientific and so you should be interested in science.

How will I be assessed?

YEAR 12 (AS)

You will study the materials components and application of food science. You will be assessed on a module named Learning through Designing and Making.

YEAR 13 (A2)

You will build on the knowledge you have learned in your AS and will do a case study, another design-and-make task and you will study food chemistry. Your modules will be Design and Manufacture and Design and Making practice.

Future opportunities

This A Level can lead to careers in the food industry, nutrition, health professions and management. It is classed as a science when applying to universities or colleges, which makes it useful if you are thinking of a scientific career.



French

Building 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. At A2 you will also have the opportunity to study aspects of French cinema. Your French will improve through regular focused teaching, supported by weekly tutorials with the French Language Assistant.

What will I learn?

You will learn to speak French to a

conversational level and about the countries that have French as their main language. You may have the opportunity to travel to France and be involved in a French exchange.

There are two topic areas to be covered in the one-year AS course, 'Leisure and Lifestyles', and 'The Individual and Society'. In the A2 course your topics will be 'Environmental Issues' and 'Social/Political Issues'.

Entry requirements

You will need at least a B at GCSE level in French. To do well you have to be prepared to discuss things in French and to work independently outside the classroom.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed using a mixture of exams and speaking, listening and writing tests.

Future opportunities

Being proficient in a second language gives a real boost to your career prospects and 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, including tourism, entertainment, public relations and mass communication, international organisations, embassies, diplomatic service and publishing.



Geography



In today's dynamic and ever-changing world, Geography has become even more important. If you enjoy investigating the real world and want to put classroom theory to the test outside, then Geography at Allerton Grange allows you to do that. There is opportunity for AS students to visit the Lake District and Manchester. Places visited during the A2 course in the past couple of years include the Isle of Skye, Barcelona and Switzerland.

What will I learn?

YEAR 12 (AS)

Unit 1 Physical and Human Geography – with potential topics including 'Rivers, floods and management', 'Hot desert

environments and their margins' and 'Food supply issues'.

Unit 2 Geographical Skills – students will apply skills in the field during visits to Manchester and the Lake District.

YEAR 13 (A2)

Unit 3: Contemporary Geographical Issues – students are given an issue-based approach to contemporary geographical themes.

Unit 4: Geography Fieldwork Investigation – students analyse and evaluate their fieldwork (usually collected during an International visit) in response to the questions set in the exam.

Entry requirements

It is desirable that you have gained at least a grade C at GCSE in Geography and

English. Although students do not have to go on field trips to complete this course it is highly advantageous and some costs will be involved in these trips.

How will I be assessed?

AS and A2 by examination.

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, as well as many more. Owing to the skills learnt during the course and the appreciation of Geography as a link subject between the arts and sciences, career opportunities are endless.

German

Building 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. At A2 you will also have the opportunity to study aspects of German cinema. Your German will improve through regular focused teaching, supported by weekly tutorials with the German Language Assistant.

What will I learn?

You will develop an interest in, and enthusiasm for, language learning in a variety of contexts and genres, and be

able to communicate confidently, clearly and effectively in the language for a range of purposes. You will develop awareness and understanding of the contemporary society, cultural background and heritage of countries or communities where German is spoken.

There are two topic areas to be covered in the one-year AS course, 'Leisure and Lifestyles', and 'The Individual and Society'. In the A2 course your topics will be 'Environmental Issues' and 'Social/Political Issues'.

Entry requirements

You will need at least a B at GCSE level in German. Be prepared to work hard and be brave enough to speak in German so that you can improve your spoken language.

How will I be assessed?

You will have to take exams which will include writing, reading and listening tasks as well as responding to the spoken language.

Future opportunities

A Level German is a requirement for going on to take a degree in German. 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.

Government and Politics

Politics would suit anyone who wants to understand how our nation is ruled and their part in that process. You will study contemporary political events and organisation of democracy in Britain and, later, in the USA, and need to be interested in the news and current affairs. Who makes the decisions that affect us? You will soon be able to vote, and you need to be informed.

What will I learn?

YEAR 12 (AS)

Unit 1 'People, Politics and Participation' covers how people vote, protest and get their voice heard via pressure groups, parties and the electoral system.

Unit 2 'Governing Modern Britain' covers the constitution and Parliament's operation.

YEAR 13 (A2)

Units 3 and 4 focus on politics in the USA.

Unit 3 covers 'Government of the USA'.

Unit 4, 'Politics of the USA' covers the voting process, parties and pressure groups.

Entry requirements

Whilst there are no specific entry requirements, you will need to be confident with written work, and so a GCSE grade C in English would help.

How will I be assessed?

Examination is through based questions and extended questions.

Future opportunities

Politics could lead to degrees in Business, Law, Accountancy, History and Political Science, to name but a few. Careers include finance, business, journalism and law.

Health and Social Care – Single/Double Award

This course can be taken as a one or two A Level equivalent. It is suitable for you if you want to have a broad understanding of the health sector, with the possibility to specialise in areas such as caring for children or the elderly.

What will I learn?

- Developing effective communication
- Equality diversity and rights
- Health, safety and security
- Development through life stages
- Public health

In addition, you will study further units throughout the course.

Entry requirements

You should have a broad education – including, for example, four GCSEs (grade C or above) and/or a Merit grade for BTEC First in Health and Social Care. In addition, you should have the interest and potential to succeed in achieving the qualification. You should be interested in people and be prepared to do a lot of research on your own.

How will I be assessed?

By coursework to deadlines set throughout the two years.

Future opportunities

A BTEC Level 3 National Award in Health and Social Care is designed to provide progression to a university degree as it gives you UCAS points for university applications. With international recognition of BTEC courses such as this, 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, health care assistant or occupational health nurse.



History

At A Level you investigate both British and European topics and in year 13 you will be able to select a subject for personal study and investigation. You will definitely enjoy the subject if you question facts and try to make sense of them. The study will involve reading, discussion and argument, together with questions and essays.

What will I learn?

YEAR 12 (AS)

Two modules covering Britain (1906–1951) and the massive changes in Stalin's Russia (1928–1941).

YEAR 13 (A2)

Your personal study based on the investigation of an historical issue.

Civil rights in the USA focusing on Martin Luther King and Malcolm X.

Germany (1945–1991): the division of Germany and its re-unification.

Russia (1941–1991): 'From Triumph to Collapse'.

Entry requirements

GCSE History is not essential but you need to show a competent level of written English. You need either B in GCSE History or B in English Language.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed in three exams lasting from 1 hour 15 minutes to 1 hour 30 minutes, plus a coursework in A2.

Future opportunities

A qualification in History is excellent preparation for a range of university courses from Law and Journalism to Accountancy and even History! Famous history graduates include Jonathan Ross, Gordon Brown, Louis Theroux and Sascha Baron-Cohen (Borat!).

ICT – Level 3 National Certificate

The OCR Level 3 Nationals in ICT have been developed to recognise candidates' skills, knowledge and understanding of ICT functions, environments and operations. They have been designed to accredit candidates' achievements in a modern and practical way that is relevant to the workplace. This is the equivalent of two A Levels.

What will I learn?

You will learn: Digital business communication, collaborative working skills, problem solving, digital showcasing, advanced database/spreadsheet skills, animation and graphics production.

Each unit will develop your ICT skills and introduce new concepts and techniques to prepare you for further study or help you to secure employment within the ICT sector.

Entry Requirements

Student should have a merit at OCR Nationals Level 2 ICT (or equivalent). It is recommended you have Maths and English GCSEs at grade C or above.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed by building a portfolio of work that relates to the various units you will study. Each unit

is graded at Pass, Merit or Distinction recognising the fact that candidates may have more developed skills in some areas.

Future opportunities

You may choose to study ICT or computing to degree level, take up work based learning in the ICT industry or just use the skill you have.



Law

Law is a fascinating subject that allows students to explore the society in which we live from a legal perspective. You will develop analytical and problem-solving skills through the use of source-based problem questions and group-work. Independent learning skills are fundamental to success at A Level and in the Law department we encourage the development of these skills by conducting moot courts, team-work and giving our students every opportunity to experience the law. In previous years we have achieved regional success at the National Bar Mock Trial Competition.

What will I learn?

YEAR 12 (AS)

You will be introduced to a range of legal topics, giving you an overview to the whole of the legal system:

- Law making – Parliament and other bodies
- The court system
- People involved in the legal process
- Criminal liability
- Civil actions.

YEAR 13 (A2)

Two topics are studied in depth, giving you the opportunity to get a sound grounding in these key areas of Law:

- Murder, manslaughter and non fatal offences
- Law of Torts.

Entry requirements

Standard entry requirements plus a grade B in GCSE English.

How will I be assessed?

Four exams – two for AS and two for A2.

Future opportunities

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.

Maths

Maths is a subject that has many applications and is an excellent A Level to take to demonstrate your abilities with logic and number.

What will I learn?

At AS Level you will study three modules over the year: Core 1, Core 2 and one of Statistics 1, Decision 1 or Mechanics 1. If you decide to continue studying Maths to A Level you will take two more core modules and one further module chosen from Statistics, Decision or Mechanics.

Decision Maths is the study of processes to make decisions easier, more efficient and less time consuming. What's the shortest distance around a town?

Statistics is the study of data and inferences from it. Do boys do better in GCSE maths than girls?

Mechanics is the study of Maths applied to movement, motion and forces. What's the best angle to throw a ball to get it further?

Core maths builds heavily on the algebra and geometry work covered within the GCSE Maths course. It is the further study of algebra, trigonometry and geometry, with the added bonus of studying calculus. The content is progressive and a lot of the work forms the basis of knowledge needed within all the applied modules.

Entry requirements

At least a grade B in GCSE Mathematics.

How will I be assessed?

An exam lasting 1 hour 30 minutes for each module. All modules are weighted equally. There is no coursework involved.

Future opportunities

Maths is an excellent subject to build a foundation of knowledge for many non-maths specific degree courses, such as Biology, Sociology, Computing, Geography, ICT, Business Studies, and Medicine. Business is crying out for mathematicians to keep them at the forefront of the latest developments and to aid in securing our digital world of information! As Maths is widely accepted as being a difficult subject, it is highly regarded by colleges/universities and employers.

Further Maths

Further Maths is an A Level for students who are taking Maths A Level and wish to study the subject in more detail.

What will I learn?

YEAR 12 (AS)

In addition to your AS Level Maths modules you will take a further three modules, Further Pure 1 and two chosen from Statistics, Decision or Mechanics.

YEAR 13 (A2)

In addition to your A2 Level Maths modules you will study two more Pure Maths modules, Further Pure 2 and Further Pure 3, plus a module chosen

from Statistics, Decision or Mechanics. Further Pure modules go into greater detail for both the applications and abstract of calculus, trigonometry and geometry. Does the sound of imaginary numbers take your fancy?

Entry requirements

You will need at least a grade A in GCSE Mathematics and must also have chosen Maths A Level.

How will I be assessed?

An exam lasting 1 hour 30 minutes for each module. All modules are weighted equally. There is no coursework involved.

Future opportunities

Some of the top universities prefer students to have studied Further Maths if they wish to take a degree in Maths or some other numerate subjects. Further Maths sets you apart from other candidates competing for Maths degree courses and jobs. There is a large overlap between A Level Further Maths and degree-level Maths. Studies have shown that, on average, people who have an A Level in Maths earn 10% more than those who don't.

Media Studies

Media Studies is a survival manual for the 21st Century, combining academic and practical studies.

What will I learn?

YEAR 12 (AS)

You will learn to navigate the contemporary media landscape as a consumer and a producer. You will investigate the latest trends in contemporary media usage and practice, from the role of Social Networking sites in international politics to Alternative Reality Gaming as a method of Film Promotion. Your understanding of media theory will be constantly underpinned by your practical media coursework, working on a range of products from trailers to print, web pages to radio broadcasts using our state of the art software and facilities.

YEAR 13 (A2)

As your studies continue you will work with greater academic and practical independence. You will engage with the debates and discussions created by the contemporary media with a particular focus on 'Representations of People and Places', including cross-cultural factors, alternative representations and stereotyping. You will also consider the impact of New and Digital Media. You will have greater freedom in your coursework, choosing your own area of study.

Entry requirements

Because of the complex language involved in study of the media we would recommend that you have a minimum of grade B GCSE English Language before

considering this course. GCSE Media Studies is useful but not essential.

How will I be assessed?

AS Level by examination and two linked practical projects. A2 Level Unit 3 by exam and an in-depth critical investigation and linked practical media production.

Future opportunities

Previously, our students have gone on to degrees in Film Studies, Media Studies and combined degrees such as Film and Theatre Production. The skills you develop, such as working under your own initiative and without supervision, and the ability to make independent critical judgements, are highly prized by a range of employers.



Music – Level 3 BTEC National Diploma

Do you enjoy performing and composing music and would like to develop skills in these areas as well as knowledge and understanding of the music world? Do you enjoy using music technology and would you be able to make use of Allerton Grange's excellent new Music ICT equipment?

This qualification offers a flexible approach to learning, allowing you to study a wide range of Units. The Certificate is equivalent to one A Level.

What will I learn?

Depending on the level studied, students will cover one, two or three compulsory units and a range of modules covering the breadth of the musical world. We will aim to tailor the course content

to the interests of those taking part. Optional units will include areas such as: Performing Music, Arranging Music, Composing Music, Music Events Management, Music and Society, Music Production Techniques, Music Technology in Performance and Pop Music in Practice. The full list available on the Edexcel website may be subject to change as Edexcel are currently restructuring and validating units of study for September 2010.

Entry requirements

Students should have studied a GCSE or BTEC music course at 14–16. GCSE Grade A* to C and Merit or Distinction at BTEC is preferred. In addition you will need a total of at least 40 points at GCSE.

How will I be assessed?

The BTEC National Certificate in Music is a nationally recognised qualification. Students are assessed using a variety of assessment methods, allowing students to demonstrate practical competences and theoretical knowledge. Assignments are set and completed covering a full range of musical activities which are based on practical, creative and academic tasks

Future opportunities

This course is an excellent option for students who wish to enter any area of the Creative Arts industry or to study Music at college or university

Performing Arts (Drama) – Level 3 BTEC National Diploma

Who would be suited to this course? Anyone with a love of practical performance, the ability to cooperate and collaborate in groups and the drive to work long hours to create, rehearse and polish performance work. This is a two year course with the equivalence of three A Levels.

What will I learn?

All students must study one compulsory unit, Performing to an Audience. After this students will be able to choose from

a range of modules covering the breadth of the Performing Arts, and we will aim to tailor the course content to the interests of those taking part. Modules could range from Musical Theatre to Performing with Masks, Stand Up Comedy Techniques to International Dance, Directing Theatre to Urban Dance.

Entry requirements

Students should have studied a GCSE or BTEC Drama/Dance/Performing Arts course at 14–16. GCSE Grade

A* to C and Merit or Distinction at BTEC is preferred. In addition they should have 40 points at GCSE or the equivalent

How will I be assessed?

At each level, BTEC Nationals in Performing Arts are assessed through portfolio work and practical coursework which is usually performance based.



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 need a competent level of English and Maths. It helps if you study AS Level Maths but it is not a requirement. To achieve high grades in this course you will need to be hard working and be willing to read around the subject.

What will I learn?

YEAR 12 (AS)

You will complete two theory modules:

- Particles, quantum phenomena and electricity.

- Mechanics, materials and waves. You will also study experimental skills throughout the course which will be examined and assessed internally.

YEAR 13 (A2)

You will complete two theory modules. The first is 'Fields and further mechanics', the second is 'Nuclear and thermal physics' and an option from 'Astrophysics', 'Medical physics', 'Applied physics' or 'Turning points in physics'. You will also study experimental skills throughout the course which will be examined and assessed internally.

Entry requirements

All students who study A Level Physics will need grade BB or above in the Double

Award Science scheme. Students with grade CC overall may be considered if they achieve a grade B in the Physics component of the Year 11 examination. Neither Single Science nor BTEC Science Level 2 will qualify students for this course.

How will I be assessed?

Each module is assessed by a module examination of 1 hour 45 minutes.

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.

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 today's society. The course also allows you to be assessed demonstrating skills in coaching and officiating. You will have to work on your sport out of school hours.

What will I learn?

You will learn about anatomy and physiology, sports psychology and opportunities for physical activity and be

practically assessed in two different roles of either performer, official or coach. In the second year you'll learn about optimising performance and evaluating contemporary issues within sport and about practical performance in full competitive situations.

Entry requirements

You need grade C or above in GCSE PE and in Science but you must be willing to do extra work in some areas of theory. It is still possible to take this A Level without having done GCSE PE.

You must be active as a sports performer,

leader, coach or official. You must be playing at least one sport regularly in a structured form.

How will I be assessed?

There are examinations (at the end of each year) and also practical coursework in each year of the course.

Future opportunities

This qualification can lead to a number of career or university pathways. Examples are: Coaching and Sport Development, Physical Education, Sport Therapy or Physiotherapy, Fitness Instructor and other jobs within the leisure industry.

Product Design

Product Design aims to help you develop into a confident researcher and analytical thinker.

What will I learn?

You will be able to understand the processes and materials used to manufacture everyday products. You will demonstrate your awareness of mass production through design and make assignments. This course involves both practical work and theory. It requires a large time commitment.

Entry requirements

You should have a creative background and have a grade C or above GCSE in Maths and English.

How will I be assessed?

YEAR 12 (AS)

You study two units: one is a design exam (2 hours) and the second is a design and make assignment where you will complete a portfolio and produce your final idea.

YEAR 13 (A2)

You will complete a written exam and a more complex design and make assignment.

Future opportunities

You may go on to a wide variety of design related university courses including Architecture, Product Design, Furniture Design, Landscape Gardening, Fine Art, Set Design usually through an art foundation course.

Psychology

This course is suitable for anyone with an interest in human behaviour. Although you do not need to have studied Psychology before, you should be able to show an interest in the subject. Through studying it, you will discover the answer to questions such as why do we fall in love, why do people forget, what is the best way to cope with stress and why do people obey. This is a fascinating course that requires concentration and application – however, it is not suitable as a subject for those wishing to solve personal problems.

What will I learn?

YEAR 12 (AS)

You will study two modules, and develop a broad knowledge and understanding of the core areas of Psychology (social, cognitive, developmental, biological and

individual differences) through a range of topics. In addition, you will study research methods.

YEAR 13 (A2)

You will study at least three options from the following:

- Biological rhythms and sleep
- Perception
- Relationships
- Aggression
- Eating behaviour
- Gender
- Intelligence and learning
- Cognition and development.

The last unit you will study involves the study of addictive behaviour, psychopathology and research methods.

Entry requirements

Students should normally have passes at grade B in a range of GCSE subjects

including Maths and/or English since the course is academically rigorous. You should be aware that you will be required to complete a large amount of homework and private study. Students must be prepared to work outside lesson time.

How will I be assessed?

YEAR 12 (AS)

You will take two exams each lasting 1 hour 30 minutes.

YEAR 13 (A2)

There will be two exams of 1 hour 30 minutes and 2 hours.

Future opportunities

Psychology is accepted as a suitable A Level for a very 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: Islam and Ethics

An in-depth study of the origins and beliefs of Islam and of ethical issues affecting the world we live in.

What will I learn?

YEAR 12 (AS)

In the AS course you will complete one Islam and one Ethics unit.

The Islam unit looks at what life was like in Arabia before the founding of Islam and the influence of Judaism, Christianity and Paganism on Islam as a new religion.

The Ethics unit looks at what we mean by right and wrong and why something may be right for one person but not for another.

YEAR 13 (A2)

In Year 2 you study the articles of belief. You will study different Muslims groups and their origins e.g. Sunni, Shiah and Sufi. The ethics section looks at whether our actions are pre-determined, do we actually have free will and what is conscience.

Entry requirements

You need a B grade in GCSE Religious Studies or a B grade in GCSE Religious Studies: Philosophy and Ethics. You also need a B grade in English.

How will I be assessed?

This course has written examinations at the end of Years 12 and 13.

Future opportunities

A qualification in Religious Studies could lead to many careers in the public sector, such as teaching, counselling, social work, law, care work etc. 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.

Religious Studies: Philosophy and Ethics

An in-depth study of philosophical and ethical issues affecting the world we live in

What will I learn?

YEAR 12 (AS)

In the AS course you will complete one Philosophy and one Ethics unit.

The Philosophy unit looks at the very first ideas about what God was like from the ancient Greeks and the early Jews/Christians.

The Ethics unit looks at what we mean by right and wrong and why something

may be right for one person but not for another, where do we get our morals from and the influence of society on our values and morals.

YEAR 13 (A2)

Both units at A2 allow opportunities for you to form your own opinions.

Entry requirements

You need a B grade in GCSE Religious Studies or a B grade in GCSE Religious Studies: Philosophy and Ethics. You also need a B grade in GCSE English.

How will I be assessed?

This course has written examinations at the end of Years 12 and 13.

Future opportunities

A qualification in Religious Studies could lead to many careers in the public sector such as teaching, counselling, social work, law, care work etc. 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.

Sociology

Sociology is, broadly speaking, the study of society or the individual in society. It looks at the relationship between society and individuals from a variety of different perspectives. Overall, sociology allows students to develop a framework for critically examining the social world. Sociology fits well with all other Social Science subjects, as well as the Humanities, English and even the Sciences.

What will I learn?

YEAR 12 (AS)

'Wealth, Poverty and Welfare' – looking at the definition and measurement of these

issues, and more importantly, the theories which attempt to explain their existence. 'Education' – what is the purpose of the education system? Why does it seem to fail boys, the working classes and certain ethnic minority groups?

YEAR 13 (A2)

'Global Development' – reasons behind the global inequalities in wealth and health. 'Crime and deviance' – critically investigate the notions of deviance, how and by whom it is defined and why people do (or don't) commit crime.

Entry requirements

As sociology is quite a wordy subject,

it would help to have a good grasp of English, both written and spoken. Grade C or above at GCSE would be helpful but not vital.

How will I be assessed?

Written examination. There are two exams for AS, 1 hour and 2 hours length. The same applies for the A2 course. There is no coursework.

Future opportunities

Sociology provides you with good analytical 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

Building 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. At A2 you will also have the opportunity to study aspects of Spanish cinema. Your Spanish will improve through regular focused teaching, supported by weekly tutorials with the Spanish Language Assistant.

What will I learn?

YEAR 12 (AS)

You will cover a variety of issues within two

topic areas of 'Leisure and Lifestyles' and 'The Individual and Society'.

YEAR 13 (A2)

Two topic areas covered are 'Environmental Issues' and 'Social/Political Issues'. You will also study two Spanish films as part of the Guided Studies Option. These films are: *El Laberinto del Fauno* and *La Pelota Vasca*.

Entry requirements

You will need at least a B at GCSE level in Spanish.

Assessment

You will have to take exams which will include writing, reading and listening

tasks, as well as responding to the spoken language.

Future opportunities

Being proficient in a second language gives a real boost to your career prospects and 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, including tourism, entertainment, public relations and mass communication, international organisations, embassies, diplomatic service and publishing.

Textiles Art and Design



Using contemporary and historical artists, movements and cultures, you will experiment with a wide range of media and techniques to develop your skills in fabric manipulation, decoration, construction and deconstruction. You can work in fashion, craft, surface decoration, 3D sculptures, flat work and mixture of all styles.

What will I learn?

YEAR 12 (AS)

You will develop your analytical skills by analysing existing artists to identify ideas you can take into your own work. You will produce a coursework folder evidencing your learning of modern artists and historical and cultural aspects of textiles and use your developing skills to produce artefacts to show your understanding. Your practical exam is 8 hours, where you have the opportunity to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of the AS course.

YEAR 13 (A2)

You will learn how to apply the knowledge and skills you developed at AS as you produce a personal study on an artist, movement or culture. This will then lead you to produce your final piece based on your investigations. Your practical exam is 12 hours, where you have the opportunity to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of the A2 course.

Entry requirements

You need to have an aptitude for creativity. You will need to show a portfolio of your work. This can be from your GCSE textiles work or similar creative subject.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed by a mixture of coursework and practical exams over the two year course.

Future opportunities

Our past students have gone on to successfully complete Foundation art courses at Harrogate, Leeds and Dewsbury. Students have also completed degree courses in a wide area of Fashion, Theatre, Surface and Jewellery. Many of our students choose textiles as they enjoy it and then go on to Law, Journalism, Medical and Business degrees.

Theatre Studies

An opportunity to expand your knowledge and understanding of theatre, its writers and its practitioners. This is a course for enthusiastic students who enjoy group work and are keen on any aspect of live theatre.

What will I learn?

YEAR 12 (AS)

Create, rehearse and understand theatre using the techniques of a range of practitioners. Working as a member of a group you will create two performance pieces for examination. You will also study a pre- and a post 20th Century play in detail as an actor and a director.

YEAR 13 (A2)

You will continue to develop your understanding of theatre theory through practical work and your understanding of the practical and technical aspects of theatre production. You will produce two further performance pieces and study two pre- and post 20th Century plays.

Entry requirements

Although we would prefer a minimum of a grade B in GCSE Drama, we will consider students with no previous Drama qualification.

How will I be assessed?

YEAR 12 (AS)

Unit 1 'Performance Workshop' – an extended practical exam.

Unit 2 'Theatre in performance' – a written exam on performances seen and two studied texts.

YEAR 13 (A2)

Unit 3 'Performance on a Set Theme' – working in a group as an actor or a technician to produce two performances in response to a theme set by the examining board. One will be drawn from a pre-existing play and one will be devised

by the group. The performances will be accompanied by a written evaluation.

Unit 4 'Text in Context' – one written examination of 2 hours 30 minutes. You will answer questions on the plays you have studied and write a directorial analysis of an extract from an unseen play.

Future opportunities

Previous students have gone on to degree courses in Performance and Technical Theatre, as well as careers both on and behind the scenes of the West End stage.



Student life in the Sixth Form

Studying in the Sixth Form is different from lower school. The main differences for you are that you can choose your own combination of subjects to study. We are usually able to timetable most combinations of subjects and this means that you can have plenty of scope to look for the subjects you enjoy most. You will also have some periods each week for private study.

Extra opportunities

You will be able to take extra courses to complement your Level 2 course or your AS and A2 studies.

These include:

- Citizenship A Level and AS Level
- General Studies A Level and AS Level
- GCSE Maths
- GCSE English
- Mentoring qualification.

But life in the Sixth Form is not just about study – you will also be able to take part in educational visits and other activities. For example, in 2010 students were involved in:

- social events including balls and parties
- sports events
- charity and fund raising events
- mentoring younger students
- drama and arts productions
- trip to Paris.



Tutorials

You will follow a comprehensive tutorial programme designed to encourage your independence.

Year 12

In Year 12, areas you will cover in your tutorials include strategies for studying (like how to manage your time!), drug issues, AIDS, families and relationships and a thorough and supportive careers programme. Visiting speakers will give us all food for thought, with talks from Holocaust survivors, Community members and Gap-year speakers.

Year 13

In Year 13, the careers programme started in Year 12 will be continued. You will be offered a choice of sports along with cooking and budgeting. Time will also be spent on preparing for life after the Sixth Form, with a particular focus on helping you to apply for university. We'll help all college and university entrants with their personal statements and applications. Revision skills will also be part of the programme.

Monitoring of academic progress

We want you to achieve your full potential. To ensure this, we monitor your progress closely. From the first day of enrolment, you will be set minimum target grades for your one year course or A Levels. These grades will be set using a nationally recognised scheme called ALPS (Advanced Level Performance System). We will then review your progress on a regular basis.

Work experience

The school is committed to providing you with a period of valuable work experience. This aims to provide some real-life experience of work: a valuable resource, a 'taste' of a potential career area enabling you to make a more informed decision on your future and to enhance your curriculum.

One year courses

Throughout the course you will attend a one-day-per-week work placement in your chosen vocational area. In the spring term you will also complete a one week block placement. This scheme enables you to obtain a wide experience in two different types of workplace.

Advanced students

You will complete a one-week block placement towards the end of the summer term in Year 12. In the past, students have taken part in placements which have related to their possible future careers, e.g. in hospitals, with lawyers, in laboratories, with designers, shadowing MPs/MEPs, and with a variety of media organisations. This work experience is arranged by you with support from school.

The timing of work placement is designed to provide you with relevant experience immediately prior to the term in which you will be making important decisions about your future career and the direction you may wish to take in higher education.

Residentials

As part of our activities programme, in the summer term of Year 12 you will be offered the opportunity to take part in a residential trip. Last year we were able to offer trips to Paris and Edinburgh.

You will have a say in which trips you would like us to consider when your turn comes. The trips that we have

run so far have been very successful and students leave at the end of the residential trips with happy memories and lots of lovely pictures to show their parents!

Some students from Year 13 went to Osaka, Japan in October 2007. We were lucky enough to be awarded money from the Sasakawa Foundation to run this trip.



Destinations

We are very proud of our 2010 sixth form leavers from Year 13 who have done very well in their exams.

At the time of going to press the vast majority of the students who applied for university have secured a place. Of the students going to university this year, two are going to Cambridge, one to study Linguistics and one to study History. Another of our students is going to take a Medical degree in Manchester.

Our students are studying a wide range of subjects, including Law, Pharmacy, Theology, Psychology, Languages, Geography and Sports Science. Many of the students have decided to study near home and so there are lots of Allerton Grange students now at Leeds University and Leeds Metropolitan University, as well as students at Huddersfield and Bradford.

Some of our students have decided to take a Gap Year and the majority of them are intending to apply through school this year for their courses. Many of these students are travelling or working before going to university. Some of them are taking the opportunity to think for a little bit longer before making course choices.



Admissions

All students should apply using the on line CAP (Common Application System). The website for this is leedspathways.org.uk Students applying will need to log on using a password from Connexions. This will normally be available from your school.

Deadline for applications is December 31st 2010. Students applying after this deadline must be aware that their applications may not be accepted. **Further information from Mrs M Irving, Head of Sixth Form:** irvingmi01@leedslearning.net

Examination results 2010

A full version of our 2010 exam results is available on the school webpage www.allertongrange.org

Year 13 A Level results

The Year 13 students continue to do well and to exceed the performance of previous years. Our average point score at A Level continues to rise, with the average grade of pass for each subject now being the equivalent of B.

The page opposite shows the table for 2010 A Level subject results.



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allerton grange



Subject	A2 Level						AS Level				
	A*	A	B	C	D	E	A	B	C	D	E
Art	1	3	4	1	2	0	3	5	2	2	0
Biology	2	3	2	5	2	0	6	1	6	2	1
British Government & Politics	0	0	2	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1
Business Studies	0	1	2	3	1	0	0	2	6	0	0
Chemistry	0	1	5	2	2	0	4	3	3	0	1
Citizenship	5	7	11	12	6	4	15	10	19	18	5
D&T Product Design	0	0	1	4	1	0	1	1	2	2	0
Economics	0	0	0	3	2	0	1	2	3	0	0
English Language	2	0	4	1	0	0	3	3	0	1	0
English Literature	3	2	1	3	2	0	3	3	4	2	0
Geography	0	0	5	5	1	0	4	5	1	1	0
German	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
History	2	6	10	3	1	0	10	11	3	0	0
IT	0	0	5	3	1	2	0	3	7	3	1
Law	0	0	4	2	0	1	1	2	4	1	0
Maths	2	4	5	0	2	1	5	2	1	2	1
Maths (further)	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0
Media Studies	0	0	5	2	0	0	3	3	2	1	0
Music	1	2	0	0	1	0	3	0	1	0	2
PE	0	0	1	0	2	1	1	0	1	3	0
Physics	0	3	1	2	2	0	4	3	1	1	0
Psychology	1	5	3	8	1	0	7	5	6	3	3
RS	1	5	2	0	1	0	8	1	0	1	0
Sociology	1	1	6	4	2	0	4	8	6	1	2
Spanish	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	2	0
Textiles	0	3	6	2	0	0	4	6	2	1	0
Theatre Studies	0	0	0	2	3	1	0	1	3	2	1
Extended Project	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	2	1	0



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