



allerton grange school

prospectus 2011–2012

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Welcome...



Address: **Talbot Avenue, Leeds, LS17 6SF**

Telephone: **0113 3368585**

Type: **Community, comprehensive, boys and girls**

Ages: **11–18** Number of students on roll: **1564**

Headteacher: **Mr R Whittaker**

Chair of Governors: **Mr R Morris**

to Allerton Grange School

Allerton Grange is a friendly and harmonious community with much to be proud of.

We have:

- a wide and varied curriculum
- a large, vibrant and successful sixth form
- an extensive range of extra-curricular and out of school activities
- examination outcomes that have improved, year on year, for the last five years
- a breathtaking, state-of-the-art new school building.

We are using the opportunity presented by the move to our new building to transform Allerton Grange by

continuing to develop our curriculum, enhance and extend the support we offer to students. We begin the 2010/11 academic year as a newly designated Specialist Arts College. This will enable us to improve the whole of our curriculum offer and in particular enhance and extend our provision in the visual arts.

As headteacher, I have a very clear view of what I want for our students – I want all students to achieve their potential and to be safe and happy in school. I am committed to staff, students and parents working together to achieve these aims.

I hope that you find the information in this prospectus helpful.

Rick Whittaker,
Headteacher



Further details about the school can be found on our website at www.allertongrange.org

School Ethos



At Allerton Grange School we provide a caring, happy, orderly and safe environment which enables the highest quality of learning for each student.

Entitlement of Members of Allerton Grange School

Each person in Allerton Grange School has the right to:

- be treated with respect
- be safe in school
- be valued as an individual
- be listened to and heard
- be able to enjoy the process of learning and fulfil their potential.

All have the responsibility to:

- respect the rights of other people and show consideration and respect for them, their culture and beliefs, their property and our environment
- behave sensibly, be safe
- be polite and co-operative to each other
- listen in silence
- follow the school rules and the rules for each work area.



Our Rules

- We treat everyone with consideration and respect.
- We keep ourselves and others safe.
- We value other people, their work and their opinions.
- We work hard and do our best.
- We follow the school rules and student code of conduct.

All artwork used to illustrate this prospectus was produced by Allerton Grange students during the last year

Behaviour Policy and Strategy for Successful Learning



We recognise good work, effort and contribution to the school community in a variety of ways, communicating success to students and parents by telephone calls and postcards home. Good attendance is also recognised culminating in a range of celebrations in end of term assemblies and other high profile events.

Our sanction system is clearly outlined in posters around the school at classroom, curriculum and whole school level. Students are aware of the consequences of inappropriate conduct. Parents are kept informed of any concerns by telephone or letter and supported by school's Safer Schools Police Officer if necessary. Our aim is to work in partnership with parents to ensure that students accept responsibility for their contribution to our school community.

The views of our students matter and are taken seriously. We regularly survey students on a variety of matters and have an active school council where students are able to contribute to the decision making process of the school and have their voice heard.

Special Educational Needs

The SEN team offer a range of specialist support, advice and guidance to colleagues and parents for students with a range of needs in our inclusive school, for example an autistic condition, dyslexia or challenging behaviour.

- We have firmly established the 'Code of Practice for Statemented and Special Needs Students'.
- We have a Student Care team of student managers, student support officers, inclusion and alternative programmes managers and a community cohesion manager led by year and key stage co-ordinators.
- We have established mentoring programmes for our gifted and talented students and for students of all abilities who are experiencing difficulties.
- The programme encourages more of our students to consider Further and Higher Education.



Curriculum

At Allerton Grange we aim to provide a successful, valuable and enjoyable learning experience for all of our students.

Every student is an individual. We want to recognise that by developing their knowledge, understanding, skills and personal qualities so that they become:

- successful and independent learners
- confident individuals
- responsible citizens.

We also aim to prepare learners to respond positively to the opportunities and challenges of the rapidly changing world in which we live and work. We realise

that we may be preparing them for jobs that do not currently exist and we need to provide them with a curriculum that will develop far more than just knowledge of a subject.

Not every child develops at the same rate. We recognise that our students are ready for different challenges at different stages during their learning journey, and we try to cater for these needs through the provision of appropriate learning and enrichment experiences for all our young people.

You can be sure that your child will experience a challenging and personalised learning experience throughout their time at Allerton Grange. We will work along with them to develop their potential and allow them to achieve their very best in preparation for a successful future.





Year 7 Learning to Learn Curriculum

Students are taught by their form tutor in their form groups for 8 sessions a week. The curriculum develops the competencies and skills that young people will need to survive and succeed in their future world. These skills are taught through a thematic approach with particular focus on Geography, History, ICT, RS and literacy.

Students will focus and be assessed on citizenship, how they learn, manage information, relate to people and deal with sensitive and sometimes difficult

situations. Social and emotional aspects of learning are key as the curriculum focuses on the 'whole child'. We aim for students to gain confidence and have self-belief. They will learn to understand and manage their feelings, working co-operatively in groups, motivating themselves and demonstrating resilience in the face of setbacks.

Religious Studies

As one of the most culturally diverse schools in Britain, we are proud that our students follow courses which are designed to help them realise and understand their own place within our community. Our courses are based on the Leeds Agreed Syllabus and encourage our students to study and evaluate different beliefs, backgrounds and cultures which make up our society, as well as learning valuable life skills along the way.

In Year 7 RS is delivered through the Learning to Learn programme, where they learn about diversity and equality within their school and within local, national and global communities. Students study all major world religions in Year 8 and in Year 9, students study more philosophical and ethical issues affecting our world today, along with researching some of the more alternative religions which feature in our country.



Most of our older students will take a GCSE qualification in Philosophy and Ethics, studying topics such as community cohesion, crime and punishment, relationships, environment and politics. Some of our students also choose to complete a GCSE in World Religions where they can complete an in depth study of up to four religions of their choice. Many successful students go on to an AS/A2 study of religious, philosophical and ethical issues.

Our School assemblies adopt a weekly thematic approach which reflects and encourages the school ethos of mutual respect, responsibility, equality, diversity and success.





Disability Access

Allerton Grange welcomes students and visitors with limited mobility into a building which meets all the criteria of fully compliant with all disability access requirements. Corridors and doorways are wide, wheelchair access is straightforward for both students and visitors. The building is on three floors and we have an easily operable wide lift between them.

There are toilets on all floors which allow wheelchair access and the PE changing rooms have specialised shower facilities. The Student Care suite also has shower and washing facilities.

We are the High School resource base for deaf children in Leeds. They have individualised curriculum

depending on their specific needs, some in mainstream lessons, some in lessons in the DAHIT teaching areas where they are taught English by Teachers of the Deaf.

Deaf Instructors (Deaf adults) teach British Sign Language (BSL) and Deaf History and Communication Support Workers interpret lessons into BSL for the deaf children and voice over the deaf children's communications for teachers and other pupils. We run BSL classes for hearing staff and pupils leading to qualifications. One ex student is now doing an interpreting degree at Wolverhampton University after starting in an after school club.

What Ofsted said

The Ofsted Monitoring visit in June 2010 produced only positive comments :

- ... the school has made **good** progress in making improvements and **outstanding** progress in demonstrating a better capacity for sustained improvement.
- Attainment is rising quickly.
- Students' progress is improving quickly.
- ... significant improvements to the curriculum in Key Stages 3 and 4 have had a positive impact on students' achievement.
- Very effective strategies and systems are in place and the pace of improvement is increasingly rapid.

All the above comments are taken from the report presented by Jan Bennett, Her Majesty's Inspector.



Charities

The school is always actively involved with several charities and many fund-raising and consciousness-raising events happen every year. Students take a lead role as organisers and we keenly encourage the sense of social responsibility that develops from this.



Artsmark Gold School



We are delighted that our reputation as a school which excels in offering opportunities across the arts was further established when the Arts Council of Great Britain once again granted us Artsmark Gold status, an award which we have held since 2007. Our state of the art facilities and the range of expertise which our teaching staff can offer to our youngsters are unrivalled in Leeds, and at the time of writing we are awaiting confirmation of Specialist Arts College Status.

We are now building on a dynamic first year in our new accommodation which has seen Artists in Residence working with Visual Arts students from Years 9–11, our Music students as the pioneers of a national project to mentor primary school children in playing and composing music, and our Drama students establishing links with professional companies and venues across the city.

In the next year we will develop a programme of artistic experiences for all of our students which will see us building new partnerships in the community, between departments and between schools. Allerton Grange and its students will become champions of creativity within the community.



School Successes

A large school like ours is able to offer a really wide range of opportunities and to celebrate many successes.

Para to come****At GCSE, our highest achievers received 13 A* and A grades. Post-16, 85% of our students went on to Higher Education, 9% had a gap year (and most are going into higher education in September of this year) and 6% left for employment. *****.

This has been an outstanding year for sporting success at Allerton Grange. The Yea 7 Athletics team are city champions. The Year 10 football team won the city league and lost in the final of the Leeds Schools Cup. Teams from all years reached the city athletics finals and the Intermediate boys (Under 15) are city champions. All age groups qualified for the city tennis finals. We qualified for the city finals in rugby league and , at time of writing, the Under-15 cricket team are playing in the city finals at Headingley Stadium.

The new sports, gymnastics and training facilities are contributing greatly to our success along with the talent and enthusiasm of dedicated staff coaches. We are now able to offer a huge range of activities – from basketball to climbing and badminton – and our students show dedication and ability in pursuing sporting excellence.

We are constantly broadening our work with the local community. The big event this year has been a Community Afternoon where local groups shared information about their activities and holiday provision and the school provided entertainment reflecting the diversity of musical and dance talent. We provide a venue and speakers for weekly community groups including Cup Shop, a chance for Asian mothers to meet and actively discuss issues.



The performing arts have, as always been well represented in the school year. We have two companies in residence with us: West Yorkshire Playhouse Touring Company and The Blahs. The work shared with the students has allowed them to grow their own skills and range of performance work. We've had many theatre visits to allow students to judge real quality in theatre. There have been students performances ranging from Shakespeare's **The Tempest** to Caryl Churchill's **Faraway** and a whole school musical, **Bugsy Malone**. In 2010–11 we will be working in the national Shakespeare Schools Festival and, with the music department, on Opera North's **Turn of the Screw**.

The music students have already familiarised themselves with opera and the skills of professional musicians by taking part in workshops and attending a performance of Mozart's *Così fan tutte*. They also went to the Wigmore Hall to listen to Mahler. There has been an average of one public performance by our music students each month, including two big showcases of their work in Autumn and early Summer.

In July 2010, due to our strong exchange links with the Lycee Faidherbe in Lille, we were invited by Leeds City Council to attend an Indian War Memorial Commemoration Service in Neuve Chapelle in Northern France. Our party was introduced to Their Royal Highnesses Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall, to whom we presented a portfolio of work produced by our students, reflecting the cultural diversity of Allerton Grange.

In October 2009, the school was visited By The Right Reverend John Sentamu, Archbishop of York who as well as delivering an assembly to all Year 7s, spent time in discussion with our students of African origin and with A level students. He was generous enough recently to recall the maturity and intelligent questioning with which he was received here.



Prince C photo

Examination Results 2009

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

2010 Year 11 GCSE Results

The Year 11 students in 2010 have shown with their exam results that the school continues to improve standards.

We have sustained the rising standards at all examination levels with the highest number of 5 A*s to Cs and a 13% increase in the number of students achieving C and above in Maths.

The increasing number of students entering for one or more BTEC subjects has shown great success. This will be further reflected next year as many more undertake BTEC.

We are very proud of the achievement of all our Year 11s but some show outstanding results. The total number of points achieved by one of our students this year stands at a startling 792 with many students gaining more than 600 points. One student gained 4 A*s, 9 As, 1 B and 1 C at GCSE; another has 9 A*s; 10 students have over 11 A* or As... and so the list goes on.

† Data not available

	2010	2010	2009	2008	2007
Number of students in Year 11	?		297	291	297
		%	%	%	%
Students achieving 5A*–C (or equivalent)	?	68.3	56.6	55.0	54.0
Students achieving 5A*–C (or equivalent) including English and Maths	?	44.3	43.8	37.0	45.0
Students achieving 5A*–G (or equivalent)	?	92	90.9	87.2	+
Students gaining A*–C in Maths	?	49.7	50.5	38.4	+
Students gaining A*–C in English	?	54.3	56.2	59.9	+

2010 GCSE Subject Results

Subject	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	%A*-C
Fine Art	3	10	13	16	5	7	2	0	75.0
Art and Design – Graphics	0	3	4	2	2	1	0	0	75.0
Astronomy	0	0	6	8	5	4	2	0	56.0
Biology	6	11	31	14	0	0	0	0	100.0
Chemistry	6	14	15	22	5	0	0	0	91.9
Design & Technology – Food Technology	0	1	3	3	4	4	0	1	43.8
Design & Technology – Product Design	1	3	2	5	1	0	0	0	91.7
Design & Technology – Textiles Technology	0	11	6	5	2	1	0	0	88.0
Drama	0	2	7	11	5	1	1	1	71.4
English Language	14	28	47	77	60	35	17	5	56.3
English Literature	1	12	39	48	31	1	0	0	74.6
French	4	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	100.0
Geography	4	8	6	16	12	4	1	1	64.2
German	0	4	1	3	1	0	0	0	88.9
History	3	16	32	28	18	18	13	3	59.0
Home Economics: Child Development	0	2	10	5	5	4	3	2	53.1
Mathematics	10	22	39	80	49	37	28	17	50.8
Media Film and TV Studies	6	41	46	60	61	31	24	3	54.8
Music	0	2	8	2	0	2	1	0	80.0
PE	0	3	12	8	10	8	1	0	54.8
Physics	4	13	19	19	6	1	0	0	88.7
Punjabi	1	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	100.0
Religious Studies – World Religions	1	8	8	4	2	2	2	5	65.6
Religious Studies – Philosophy & Ethics	6	23	40	52	35	31	16	7	56.3
Russian	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	100.0
Science Core	0	4	13	75	54	23	13	13	46.0
Science: Additional	0	1	9	46	32	10	3	0	55.4
Spanish	2	2	4	6	3	3	0	0	70.0
Urdu	0	1	1	2	1	1	2	0	50.0
Religious Studies – Philosophy & Ethics	0	2	1	6	8	8	18	6	15.5

2010 Year 11 BTEC / OCR Nationals Results

BTEC & OCR Nationals	Distinction*	Distinction	Merit	Pass	Unclassified	%A*-C
OCR National First Award (1 GCSE)	0	43	28	34	0	100.0
OCR National Award (2 GCSEs)	0	7	2	5	0	100.0
Business BTEC (First Diploma)	0	0	0	14	0	93.3
Business BTEC (First Certificate)	21	21	16	40	0	100.0
Dance BTEC (First Certificate)	0	4	2	0	2	75.0
H&SC BTEC (First Diploma)	5	1	10	4	1	95.2
H&SC BTEC (First Certificate)	0	0	0	4	0	100.0
Music BTEC (First Certificate)	0	1	1	4	0	100.0
Science BTEC	2	3	5	12	2	91.7
PE BTEC (First Diploma)	0	0	5	5	0	100.0
Art BTEC Diploma	4	1	3	0	0	100.0
Art BTEC Certificate	1	0	4	2	0	100.0



2010 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.

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

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



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



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