



## **Frequently Asked Questions - Curriculum**

### **What is the KLAS curriculum?**

The KLAS curriculum sits at the heart of everything we do at Allerton Grange. KLAS stands for Knowledge, Literacy, Aspirational Enrichment and Social Mobility. We believe that all students need to learn strong and powerful subject knowledge to succeed.

Literacy is pivotal for success: Words Matter teaches subject specific and core vocabulary needed for academic success; Accelerated Reader supports the development of reading ages in Years 7 and 8; Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) means that each year group enjoys sharing a challenging novel and are exposed to new concepts and vocabulary. A range of effective intervention programmes also support literacy development.

Our aspirational enrichment programme is full of exciting opportunities for our students. Over 42 extra-curricular clubs run each week. Over 100 school trips took place last year to local, national and international destinations. It is important that our young people experience the wide culture of the world around us, so trips have included visits to Parliament, sporting events, theatres, museums, galleries and even outdoor pursuits. We have exciting links with local and national universities, and are developing even stronger links with employers and businesses, including KPMG and Burberry.

All this leads to a well-rounded and well-informed student, ready to take the next steps to their aspirational choice of university, apprenticeship or employment.

### **How is homework set? What sort of things will my child be asked to do?**

Homework is an extension of the KLAS curriculum. It focuses on cumulative knowledge and ensuring that this knowledge is embedded into long-term memory. All subjects have a knowledge organiser and homework will usually be set from this. Students are expected to quiz and self-test on the knowledge and there will be a follow-up quiz in school.

We have historically used the online Show My Homework system to record homework and deadlines. This allows parents to monitor what homework has been set, access a copy of any knowledge organiser and see when the homework is due.

At present, we are using Microsoft Teams groups for homework as this also allows for teaching remotely where necessary.

### **What is DEAR?**

Each school day students have a DEAR (Drop Everything And Read) session, where students return to their form bases to read culturally enriching works of literature with their form tutors. The form tutor reads aloud as students follow the text using their own individual copy of the book. All forms in a year group read the same chapters each week, so as to enjoy an enriching and shared learning journey. Students read approximately one book per term.

All the books have been carefully selected to develop students' range of vocabulary, but also, to provide them with important cultural capital. In short, not just knowledge of words, but knowledge of the world.

When DEAR launched in September 2019, the first set of books were:



Year 7 - The Giver

Year 8 - Welcome to Nowhere

Year 9 - Noughts and Crosses

Year 10 - Woman in Black

Year 11 - 1984

From September 2021 there will be a [permanent set of DEAR books](#) that each year group reads