



Aspire, Grow, Succeed

Beyond the
Curriculum



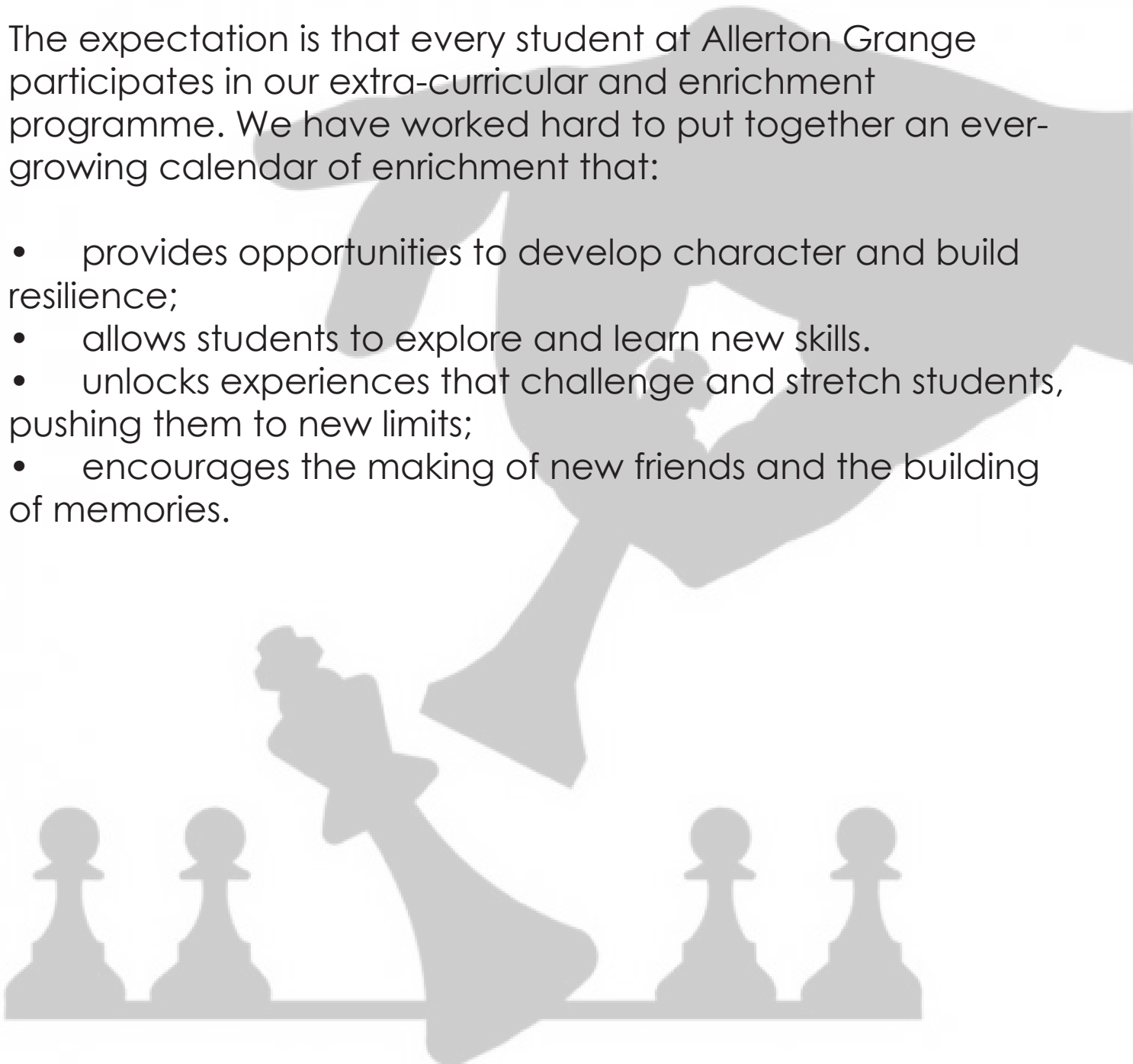
Introduction

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

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

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

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



Drama

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

At least 6 performances occur each year including a full Shakespeare production and a summer musical, which is always the highlight of the school year. Key Stage 3 students have the opportunity to showcase their own piece of drama each year, which is always very well attended. The senior production is a collaboration with the School of Performance and Cultural Industry at the University of Leeds and has produced some stunning pieces of drama over the years.

There are countless opportunities to go and watch drama locally and nationally. Recent theatre trips have included 'The Wizard of Oz' at Leeds Playhouse and 'Ubu' by Kneehigh Theatre Company.



Music

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

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

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

The annual Battle of the Bands is much-anticipated; students frequently perform their own compositions and competition is fierce. The finalists get to record their tracks in a professional recording studio, which creates a real buzz around school.

Our musicians perform regularly in the community both locally and internationally. Each July, our musicians tour somewhere in Europe; in 2019 they serenaded Lake Garda and in 2022 the tour took to the streets of Edinburgh.



Sport

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

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

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

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

Outside of school, we have students successfully competing at county level in sports like rugby, tennis, gymnastics and swimming and also for England and Team GB. One student won gold in the World Shotokan Karate Championships for his age group and was awarded Leeds Young Sportsman of the Year.

Our PE staff also organise trips to sporting events in this country and overseas. Allerton Grange students have enjoyed Wimbledon, our netballers attended the Netball World Cup in Liverpool and PGL Netball residential in Shropshire, and Years 7, 8 and 9 Football teams attended a Premier League football residential. In 2021-22, Year 8 football and netball players took part in a tournament in Barcelona.



Art and Photography

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

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

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

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

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



Duke of Edinburgh

Allerton Grange School have proudly offered the opportunity for students to take part in The Duke of Edinburgh award for the last 10 years. The Award is in demand year after year as the skills and experience it provides is invaluable. We currently have 80 students enrolled to take part in the Bronze Award this year.

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

Reasons to get involved

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

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



Enrichment trips

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

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

Below are a selection of upcoming trips that will run this year:

- Ski Trip to northern Italy
- French Trip to Normandy
- German trip to the Rhineland
- Year 12 Adventure Residential
- Leeds Pride
- GCSE and A-Level Drama London Theatre Trips
- Girls Rugby trip to Headingley
- Drama and English Theatre Trip to Othello
- Year 7 Residential
- Year 8 Bushcraft Residential
- Barcelona PE Trip
- End of year enrichment trips for all years





Other Clubs

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

Below are the clubs being offered in the first half term this year with new clubs being offered throughout the year:

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



University and employer links

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

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

Visiting speakers are a regular occurrence. Lecturers and post-graduate university students enhance our curriculum, as do an ever-widening group of employers and alumni. KPMG, the BBC and DAC Beachcroft Law firm are some examples of professionals who recently inspired our students. We intend to extend this work to include workplace visits in the coming academic year.



Academic Enrichment

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

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

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



LGBTQI School

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

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

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

Spectrum

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

Leeds Pride

Allerton Grange is proud to have been the only school represented at Leeds Pride held in August 2022. A cohort of staff and students proudly marched in the parade showing our support for the LGBTQIA+ community. We are looking forward to attending again next year!

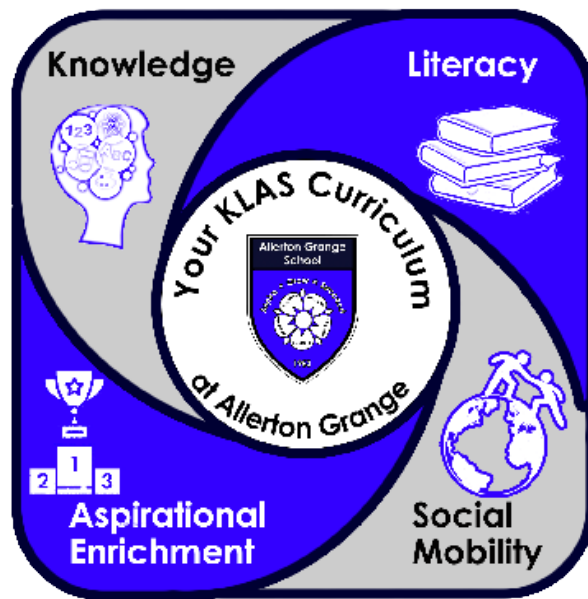


Leadership

All students have the potential to become a leader. At Allerton Grange, we offer plenty of opportunities for students to develop these critical life skills and grow as a person. Examples of leadership roles include:

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





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