

Humanities Curriculum Map



Intent

This curriculum map shares the outline for teaching Humanities across the school from Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) to key stage 3. Broadly defined, the humanities are the study of human culture. Humanities includes the teaching of Religious Education (RE), History and Geography. The National Curriculum states that 'Studying Humanities exposes students to creative ideas from great minds outside of science that they can then apply to their own work. It helps students to connect ideas across the curriculum, through exposure to language, history, culture and ideas from other times and places. Teaching Humanities matters because it enables children to: consider questions about the meaning and purpose of their lives, explore their own identities; values and beliefs and concepts such as time, space and faith, develop skills and habits associated with critical and creative thinking.' At Highfurlong we value everybody and all of our pupils are unique individuals. Humanities expands our knowledge of human cultures and help us understand what binds us together and what differentiates us from one another. Through teaching Humanities we are providing a greater insight into the world, helping us to better understand both the past and the future and fostering a sense of empathy. At Highfurlong, we aim to provide pupils with a broad and interesting curriculum in order that they become knowledgeable about their own and others cultures. Pupils learn to accept differences and develop a fundamental understanding for others. They learn about the world they live in and the contribution they can make as the citizens of tomorrow.

Implementation

In the Early Years pupils follow the EYFS Foundation Stage Curriculum and learn through Knowledge and Understanding of the World aspects of History, Geography and R.E. This provides a good foundation on which to build future learning in History, Geography and R.E as they progress through the key stages in school. Pupils in Key stages 1-3 are taught Humanities as a collective subject, at times with a strong emphasis on one particular area i.e. if a religious festival is being celebrated for example, Easter, but mainly through immersive experiences where History, Geography and RE are taught together. Pupils follow either a Sensory or Academic pathway and less are adapted to suit the individual needs of learners. Pupils have access to weekly lessons and the content is carefully chosen to reflect prominent events from the past and relevant current issues, which all have an impact on our lives today. By teaching Humanities in a practical and sensory way, as well as through discussions, we can get pupils thinking and developing their philosophical minds, they can debate past events, learn from mistakes and have fun role playing events from history. Planning for Humanities is shared amongst teaching staff termly, to enable consistency of delivery, and to ensure all key stages have a continuum of sequential lessons. In Key stage 4 & 5 pupils access External Accreditation and study a modular approach to learning incorporating cultural modules such as Current Affairs/The Environment/ Geography /History/ Popular Culture & The Wider World. Highfurlong has an extensive curriculum resource bank which enables pupils to handle artifacts from various religions, role play history and see examples of the natural world, for instance fossils and volcanic lava.

Impact

The impact of Humanities should be seen in the knowledge and understanding pupils have in a range of topics across History, Geography and RE. Pupils are assessed through all cross curricular areas which have been impacted by the teaching of Humanities. Humanities teaching enables pupils to achieve throughout all of our curriculum areas in areas of PSHE, Citizenship, Literacy Communication, Social & Emotional Health, Sensory & Physical Development, Cognition & Learning and Flexibility of Thought. Pupils make good progress through being able to access a rich and balanced curriculum designed to suit the needs of them as individual learners. Pupils will develop empathy and respect for cultures and religions around the world, whilst also finding a sense of identity in their own community. They will have a good understanding about the expression of different beliefs in local, national and the wider global community. They will be able to communicate about a range of events through time and will be confident to discuss places around the world and significant figures. This will help them to be confident and empathetic members of the community.



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Age Progression

Teaching and learning coverage

