

Forest Oak School



Curriculum Intent, Implementation and Impact
statement for *Humanities*

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Intent

At Forest Oak we want to create a passion for learning that carries on for life. We believe that the study of humanities is integral to the teaching and learning of diversity, tolerance and respect. Our pupils are encouraged to learn and develop a greater understanding and knowledge not just about their local areas but the world and their place in it. This means pupils will grow into citizens who have a well-rounded view and understanding of the world they live in – our history, culture, diversity and geography.

The Humanities curriculum at Forest Oak enables pupils to develop knowledge and skills that are transferable to other curriculum areas and which can and are used to promote their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. This is done through our challenging and engaging curriculum allowing a progression for both skills and knowledge.

The Humanities intent is designed around 3 key principles:

1. To encourage pupils to enjoy learning by stimulating a passion and interest in the world around them, and the human and physical processes that shape it. Also, to explore various places in the world; comparing and contrasting with their local area to gain a greater understanding of people in diverse cultures, races and religions.
2. To allow pupils to develop a rounded understanding of the past and how it can impact on the present and our future. They will also compare past societies and historic periods with the present.
3. To offer lessons and activities that allow pupils to become more curious and become critical thinkers so they can 'articulate, analyse, explain and infer' as they study assorted topics. This can help foster pupils' sense of awe and wonder at the beauty of the world around them.

At Forest Oak School, we follow modified guidelines from the Early Years Framework and National Curriculum. Cornerstones Curriculum is now being taught in primary year group and year 7; this is concept-driven, creative and knowledge rich to support and develop pupil's knowledge and understanding through a range of topics. This allows pupils of all abilities the best opportunities to develop their knowledge, understanding and vocabulary linked to Humanities. In Key Stage 4, there is an opportunity for pupils to take history as an option as an Entry Level Qualification.

Implementation

Humanities at Forest Oak are studied from EYFS through to KS4 where a history Entry Level Qualification is taught to students who have chosen the subject.

History is delivered in a range of ways but with an emphasis on active learning to keep pupils engaged. The following skills and processes are needed to enable that our pupils to learn and make progress:

- Study the relevant past and historical issues
- Using evidence to identify, select and evaluate different sources to reach conclusions.
- Foster an understanding of “why” as well as “who”, “what”, “when” and “where”.
- Experience, investigate and being immersed in a range of sources of information
- Communicate about the past, their own knowledge and understanding of historical events
- Use chronological conventions and historical vocabulary.

Geography is exciting, enjoyable, and relevant to the explorer. It allows pupils to experience the wider world and draw comparisons between this and their own locality. We aim to delivery Geography by:

- Studying a range of places; the human and physical processes, which shape them and the people who live in them.
- Skills developed through Geography help pupils to make sense of their surroundings and the wider world.
- Explore, experience and develop an understanding of areas such as their local environment, e.g., their school, local shops, the weather, jobs, water, maps, directions and exploring the differences between the country and the town.
- Learn about diverse cultures and thus develop tolerance and understanding of difference and diversity.
- Carry out geographical inquiry-skills to collect, record and display information.
- To use a range of resources to investigate and study different geography topics.

In EYFS, Key Stages 1, 2 and 3, Humanities is taught in a thematic, immersive way. From Year 2 up to Year 7 these lessons form part of our cross-curricular Cornerstones Scheme of Work. In Years 8 and 9 we use our own bespoke Forest Oak topic-based Scheme of Work, designed to flow seamlessly from Cornerstones, starting to build the skills and knowledge required for Key Stage Four Accreditations.

Humanities in KS4 takes the form of an OCR Entry Level qualification taught as a rolling curriculum over Years 10 and 11. Pupils cover Crime and Punishment from 1250 – modern day as a thematic topic looking at how crimes, punishments, and attitudes to these have changed over the last 750 years including changes in technology and how that has influenced both crimes and punishments. Pupils also look at a topic in greater depth. Previously, this has been WW2 in particular Germany from 1925-1955. This in-depth study enables pupils to look in detail at a topic and study its intricacies especially when studying the period of 1939-1945 which they have previously studied from the British Perspective.

Impact

At Forest Oak School, pupils have the opportunity to record their learning in different ways. Evidence is dependent on the lesson objective, year groups, and key knowledge and skills being developed. A range of sources are used to develop pupils understanding and knowledge. The use of maps, photographs, portraits, artefacts, written materials, ICT based materials, data, TV/films extracts can help support and enhance the learning further.

The impact of our current curriculum will ensure that pupils at Forest Oak will:

- Develop a chronological knowledge of history
- Use appropriate terms and vocabulary linked to Geography and History
- Develop their locational knowledge of places around them and in the wider world using a range of resources
- Developing Geographical skills and use fieldwork to observe, measure and record the human and physical features of different areas
- Identify historically significant people and events
- Describe and make links between events, situations and changes within and across different periods and societies.