



Humanities Curriculum Intent Statement July 2020

Intent:

At Brookfield, we believe that the curriculum offer should bring to life our vision of “overcoming barriers for a brighter future.” The best way to prepare our young people for the future is to ensure all our young people have access to an outstanding educational experience, tailored to individual need which supports their next steps post-16.

The subject area of Topic/ Humanities incorporates both History and Geography.

History

The study of History provides opportunities for the pupils to experience and develop an understanding of events and people of different times and places. It enriches the curriculum by offering the pupils the opportunity to be actively involved in exploring the world around them. This is achieved through a range of activities including but not limited to: handling artefacts, visiting museums, listening to speakers and stories, looking at books, photos and through taking part in practical craft-based activities linked to particular topics.

Learning about the past- how it has influenced and shaped our lives, beliefs, and customs, can help pupils to make sense of the world in which they live. Through the teaching of history, we can expand our pupils' knowledge and understanding of the past and encourage their investigation of it.

As Brookfield is an SEMH provision, the delivery of History is approached in a thematic way with an emphasis on active learning in order to keep pupils engaged. Pupils study the relevant past, experiencing, investigating and being immersed in a range of sources of information. This approach deliberately ensures the pupil, the school, the family, the local community and the local area to be the focus of study. Linked with other subjects, history provides a range of experiences and achievements, which contributes to the richness of pupils' lives according to individual needs and abilities.

Geography

Geography is the study 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. The study of Geography allows pupils to 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. Pupils also learn about different cultures and thus develop tolerance and understanding of difference and diversity.

At Brookfield, Geography is taught in a thematic, immersive way. 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.

Implementation:

In year 7, Humanities is taught as 'Topic' as this is a more pupil friendly name and helps bridge the gap between primary and secondary. As these pupils are taught in an immersive, thematic way, Humanities coverage is based on the themes such as Deep Sea Voyage, Africa and The Victorians. Learning builds on key stage 2 coverage and focusses on an active learning approach with pupils experiencing visits to museums, talks from visiting speakers and craft-based activities.

In years 8 and 9, pupils study ASDAN courses in History and Geography with the same focus on active learning.

Impact:

Pupils enjoy and are enthusiastic about Humanities in our school.

Pupils at Brookfield access an ASDAN qualification at the end of KS4.

There is a clear progression of pupil's work and teachers' expectations in our school.

Pupils' work shows a range of topics and evidence of the curriculum coverage for Humanities topics.

Pupils become more aware of their local area and the wider world, experiencing awe and wonder and an awareness of cultures other than their own.