



Humanities Curriculum Statement

Intent:

Humanities at Mytchett provides children with a breadth of opportunity and experiences. We set out to discover the historian and geographer in each and every child by igniting their curiosity and passion for the world in which they live and how it became as it is today. Through our teaching of geography and history, we endeavour to help the children see the opportunities their world holds for them, by understanding it better, seeing how it has changed and appreciating the role in its sustainability. We also place an emphasis on ensuring children's skills such as geographical fieldwork and historical enquiry are progressively developed. We focus on challenging children to ask and answer challenging and in depth questions. Children at Mytchett are encouraged to think critically, weigh evidence, sift arguments and develop good perspective and judgement. We endeavour to help children understand that the world is complex and dynamic and challenge them to question their place in this.

Implementation:

At Mytchett, historical and geographical contexts underpin many of our cross-curricular topics. The learning of history is sequenced chronologically. In the Early Years and Lower Key Stage 1, children focus upon themselves and their families in order to begin to appreciate the chronology of time. By Year 2, the children are introduced to landmark events beginning with The Great Fire of London. Throughout Key Stage 2, the teaching and learning of History follows a chronology that cumulates in Year 6 with World War II.

The learning of geography is sequenced to develop the children's understanding of place, beginning in the Early Years and Year 1 in our immediate locality and subsequently extending logically beyond this to also consider the wider world in Year 2 and Key Stage 2. Contrasting countries and cultures have been chosen, such as India, Italy and The Americas, to enable the children to recognize similarities and differences which broaden their understanding of people and places. Our learning about the wider world is further enriched by a termly international day called 'Mytchett Meets the World' during which all of the children engage in learning about a chosen country. Where possible, we link learning with the local area and use its' geographical features, such as the canal and Farnborough Airport. We believe the local area has great value as an accessible and relevant resource for contextual learning in which the children are invested.

Throughout both Key Stages and across the humanities, knowledge and skills are revisited to give context to new learning and Knowledge Organisers are used to support the children's acquisition and retention of facts (for example, key dates, names of rivers and capital cities).

We ensure the children have the opportunity to visit places of interest and engage in real life experiences (such as river studies) so that their learning is enriched. In addition to this, we take every opportunity to invite visitors into our school and share historical artefacts for children to experience and help them to piece together the past.

Impact:

We aim for pupils to leave Mytchett:



- Keen historians and geographers who are curious about the world around them.
- Having progressed through a range of methods of enquiry, investigation and analysis to help them find out and deepen their understanding of geographical and historical concepts.
- Knowing and understanding the history of the British Isles as a coherent, chronological narrative, from the earliest times to the present day.
- Knowing how people's lives have shaped our nation and how Britain has influenced and been influenced by the wider world.
- Understanding historical concepts such as continuity and change, cause and consequence, similarity, difference and significance, and use them to make connections and draw contrasts.
- Demonstrating a contextual knowledge of the location of globally significant places – both terrestrial and marine – including their defining physical and human characteristics.