Mount Tamar School
Curriculum Statement

Humanities

Intent

At Mount Tamar, our Humanities curriculum aims to inspire curiosity and a love of learning about the past for all pupils. We want our students to understand significant people, places, events and changes over time, while developing a sense of identity and belonging through local, national and global history and geography. Our curriculum is carefully adapted to meet the diverse needs of our pupils: from highly thematic, story-based learning in our nurture groups, to a more structured chronological approach for those able to access a more academic curriculum. Across all classes and sites, we aim to build cultural capital, encourage questioning, and develop key skills such as cause and consequence, change and continuity, significance and using evidence. We intend for our pupils to be able to apply this cultural to challenge and enquire in a real-life context in an increasingly challenging world. We also provide opportunities for cross curricular links across other subjects so that humanities can enrich our other subjects and provide context.

Implementation

Humanities will be delivered through a two-year rolling programme to ensure breadth and progression without repetition in mixed-age groups. At Row Lane, nurture classes access a highly engaging thematic curriculum based on stories, sensory learning, and practical activities. Older KS3 classes follow theme-based topics which build skills gradually and make content accessible, while still covering core aspects of the KS3 framework.
At Seymour, pupils follow a more academic, chronological programme, with clear routines, visual scaffolds and structured activities that provide more challenge and new skills. Lessons include discussions, role play, creative projects, visual resources and local history, with regular opportunities to revisit and reinforce knowledge. Staff at Mount Tamar will also use playful, child centred techniques which are bespoke

Impact

The impact of our Humanities curriculum is seen in pupils' curiosity, enjoyment, and ability to talk about the past with confidence and in a way that it is relevant to their lives. Pupils can recall key events, people and stories, make simple comparisons across time, and apply historical skills at a level appropriate to their needs. For nurture groups, success is measured in engagement, storytelling, and developing a sense of chronology. At Mount Tamar we also understand the importance of understanding the past as a way of contextualising the present and addressing contemporary issues, such as racism and other societal issues. Our pupils will be able to use their knowledge to challenge stereotypes and misinformation so prevalent today.