

# THE ST. CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL

Academy Trust - Special School

Mountdale Gardens, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex SS9 4AW

Head Teacher: Mrs. J. Mullan

Telephone: (01702) 524193

Fax: (01702) 526761

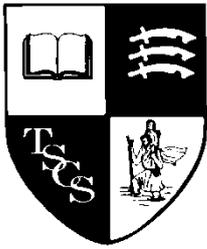
E.Mail: office@tscs.southend.sch.uk

Web: www.thestchristopherschool.co.uk

Christopher's Cottage



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## THE ST. CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUST HUMANITIES POLICY – WHOLE SCHOOL

<b>First written:</b>	<b>October 1999</b>		
<b>Revisions:</b>	January 2010	November 2012	May 2017
	October 2011	December 2014	

### 1. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Humanities include History, Geography and R.E. The subjects are taught throughout the Primary and Senior School. Within Key stage 1 and Key stage 2 the subjects are taught on a topic basis. Within Key Stage 3 the subjects are taught as separate subjects. Within Key Stage 4 Humanities is taught via the ASDAN Youth Award Scheme. Our vision is for learners to become confident within all aspects of Humanities, so that they can develop the skills, knowledge and understanding which enable them to use their skills effectively in all areas of their lives.

#### We aim for young people to become:

- Successful learners, who enjoy learning, make progress and achieve.
- To enable pupils to distinguish between present and past in their own and other people's lives.
- To give the pupils the opportunity to use non-fiction material, including books, artefacts, DVDs etc to access information.
- To give pupils opportunities to demonstrate knowledge and skills by asking and answering questions and through a variety of written or practical tasks.
- For all pupils to have the opportunity to access a wide range of first hand experiences, through visits and visitors.
- To allow pupils to function as independent learners, able to take their knowledge into other situations and continue to add to it when leaving school.
- To encourage all pupils to share and to respect their peers and others living around them in the community and in the world.
- To develop investigative skills.
- To learn about the world around us.

#### In order to fulfil the above aims it is necessary for us to ensure:

- The systematic progression through key stages Foundation, 1, 2, 3 & 4.
- That the National Curriculum programmes of study for Humanities and their associated strands, descriptions targets are given appropriate coverage. This is achieved through schemes of work that take into consideration the Early Years Foundation Stage (2014), revised Primary National Strategy (2014) and the revised Secondary National Strategy (2014).
- That all children have access to a range of Humanities activities.
- That Humanities experiences are focussed to enhance learning.



LOEC Mark (Gold)  
Learning Outside the Classroom



## **2. CURRICULUM CONTENT AND TIME**

Humanities is an integral part of The St Christopher School. Essential daily routines and school events such as theme weeks are pivotal in facilitating learning opportunities within these areas, alongside directed curriculum time from foundation level through to Key stage 4. Humanities is taught in its own right and as an integral part of the whole curriculum. All planning is informed by schemes of work that follow the recommendations of the latest national curriculum with reference to Q.C.A guidelines for children with learning disabilities, coordinated by the subject leader. Content is adapted and tailored to the needs of the individual pupils and to the needs of the class group.

Schemes of work are written by the Humanities coordinator for each topic and the subject and class teachers then plan the individual topics on a half-termly basis. In the primary school the schemes of work are run on a 2 year rolling programme and in the senior school on a 3 year rolling plan.

### **Extension and Extra Curricular Activities**

All key stages are encouraged to participate within a wide range of humanities based trips and visitors coming into school to “bring the topics to life.” The pupils require very practical, visual activities to enable some understanding of the Humanities topics.

An information folder is available for each individual humanities subject with teachers pooling resources for the wide range of topics via the T drive.

A photo folder is also continually updated offering evidence of all aspects of SMSC. Written work, photos and videos are displayed throughout the school including via the life channel in the school hall.

### **Attitudes**

Positive attitudes are encouraged through learning about a wide variety of cultures in Britain and across the world. Visitors are regularly in the school leading assemblies and speaking to individual groups. A wide range of fund raising events are organised during the year to encourage the pupils to empathise with others.

## **3. PRIMARY AND SECONDARY HUMANITIES COORDINATOR**

There are designated Humanities Co-ordinators to oversee the planning and delivery of Humanities within both departments of the school. The Secondary co-ordinator regularly meets with the Primary Co-ordinator to ensure continuity and consistency across the key stages and to order resources for use across the school.

### **The Humanities coordinators will be responsible for:**

- Facilitating the use of Humanities across the curriculum in collaboration with all subject coordinators
- Providing or organising training to keep staff skills and knowledge up to date
- Advising colleagues about effective teaching strategies, managing equipment and purchasing resources
- Monitoring the delivery of the Humanities curriculum and reporting to the headteacher on the current status of the subject

### **Monitoring**

Monitoring Humanities will enable the coordinator to gain an overview of Humanities teaching and learning throughout the school. This will assist the school in the self-evaluation process identifying areas of strength as well as those for development

**In monitoring of the quality of teaching and learning the Humanities coordinators will:**

- Scrutinise plans to ensure that the Humanities being taught is age and ability appropriate.
- Analyse children's work.
- Observe Humanities teaching and learning within the secondary school.
- Analyse assessment data.
- Regularly review the Humanities policy and scheme of work alongside teachers.

**4. USE OF ICT**

ICT has an important part to play in the teaching of Humanities. Pupils and staff regularly make use of the up to date information such as current affairs and fast moving topics. The school subscribes to a number of web-based resource sites that offer interactive activities for pupils within Humanities. Pupils are often encouraged to use their ICT skills to present their work.

**5. RESOURCES AND BUDGET**

The Humanities budget is allocated each financial year and is available for the whole school. Teaching staff that require particular items of equipment, books, etc to be taught effectively need to discuss these with the Humanities subject leader who will then order as appropriate. Resources will be reviewed on a regular basis. Finance for visits, visitors and individual resources are available from the Humanities budget.

**6. REVIEW**

Revision and updating of this policy will be completed by subject co-ordinators, following discussion with the Senior Management. Revisions will be presented to the governing body for discussion and approval.

**Name:** Amelia Howe (Primary Coordinator) and Dashiell Allum (Secondary Humanities Leader.)