

Humanities - Curriculum Overview

What we teach in Humanities

At New Avenue, Humanities is made up of **History** and **Geography**.

We teach these subjects to help pupils understand the world around them, where it came from, and how it is changing.

In **History**, pupils learn about key events, periods and individuals from Britain and across the world. They build an understanding of chronology, cause and effect, and how different societies have changed over time.

In **Geography**, pupils learn about physical and human features of the world, developing knowledge of places, environments and the processes that shape them. They build mapping skills, fieldwork experience, and awareness of local, national and global issues.

Our curriculum develops critical thinking, enquiry skills and a deep respect for different cultures, environments and histories.

How we teach Humanities

Humanities lessons follow a consistent structure across phases:

- **Do Now** activities focus on recalling key facts or vocabulary.
- Retrieval Tasks build long-term memory by connecting old and new knowledge.
- Mini-Lesson introduces new concepts clearly and simply.
- **Guided Practice** helps pupils apply new ideas through structured activities, including source analysis, map work or fieldwork.
- Independent Work allows pupils to apply and extend their knowledge creatively.

• **Reflection** supports pupils in evaluating what they have learned and considering how it links to the bigger picture.

Lessons use a mix of practical, written and discussion-based tasks, adapted to meet each pupil's stage of learning.

How we measure progress in Humanities

Progress is assessed through:

- Pupil discussions, responses and written work.
- Projects, fieldwork and creative outcomes.
- End-of-unit quizzes and knowledge checks.
- Teacher judgement of enquiry skills, critical thinking and understanding of key concepts.

Assessment focuses on building pupils' ability to make connections across time and place, ask questions, use evidence, and explain their thinking clearly.

Curriculum Overview for Humanities

Phase	Focus	Key Topics
Foundation (Years 1–2)	Introduction to local and global history and geography	Toys Through Time, Significant Individuals, The Great Fire of London, Explorers, Our Place in the World, Weather and Seasons, The United Kingdom, Hot and Cold Places
Phase 1 (Years 3–4)	Building historical and geographical understanding through world studies	Stone Age to Iron Age, Ancient Egypt, Romans, Victorians, Tudors, Ancient Greece, Counties and Regions of the UK, Climate and Weather Patterns, Europe, Rivers and the Water Cycle
Phase 2 (Years 5–6)	Deepening understanding of global history and complex geographical processes	Anglo-Saxons, Vikings, War and Conflict, Mayans, Titanic, Spitfire, Earthquakes and Tsunamis, Europe, Climate Zones, Trade and Resources, Rivers and Coasts
Phase 3 (Years 7–9)	Expanding analysis across historical periods and global geography	Medieval Life, Islamic Golden Age, Tudors, Industrial Revolution, British Empire, WW2 and the Holocaust, Cold War, USA in the 20th Century, Africa and Kenya, Middle East, Extreme Weather, Tectonic Hazards, Rivers and Flooding
Phase 4 (Years 10–11)	Preparing for GCSE History and Geography or Entry Level pathways	Natural Hazards, Urban Challenges, Economic Change, Living World Biomes, Rivers and Coasts, Conflict and Peace, Resource Management, Geographical Applications, Historical Depth Studies

History Long-Term Plan

Phase	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Foundation (Years 1–2)	Toys Through Time	Significant Individuals (e.g., Florence Nightingale)	The Great Fire of London	Explorers and Exploration	Recap and Review Projects	Local History Study
Phase 1 (Years 3– 4)	Stone Age to Iron Age	Ancient Egypt	Romans in Britain	Victorians	Tudors	Ancient Greece
Phase 2 (Years 5– 6)	Anglo-Saxons	Vikings	War and Conflict (WW1 focus)	Mayan Civilisation	Titanic and Spitfire Studies	Historical Investigations
Phase 3 (Years 7– 9)	Medieval Life	Islamic Golden Age	Tudors and the Reformation	Industrial Revolution	British Empire	WW2 and the Holocaust
Phase 4 (Years 10–11)	Conflict and Peace Studies	Cold War and USA 20th Century	Thematic and Depth Studies	Geographical and Historical Applications	Coursework and Revision	External Examinations

Geography Long-Term Plan

Phase	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Foundation (Years 1–2)	Our Place in the World	Weather and Seasons	The United Kingdom	Hot and Cold Places	Continents and Oceans	Similarities and Differences
Phase 1 (Years 3–4)	Counties and Regions of the UK	Climate and Weather Patterns	Fieldwork and Mapping	Countries of Europe	Compasses and Gridwork	Rivers and Water Cycle
Phase 2 (Years 5–6)	Earthquakes and Tsunamis	European Neighbours	Climate Zones	North and South America	Trade and Resources	Rivers and Coasts (Fieldwork)
Phase 3 (Years 7–9)	Map Skills and Introduction to Geography	Rock Cycle and Weathering	Urbanisation and Population (Fieldwork)	Africa and Kenya Studies	Extreme Weather	Ice and Glacial Landscapes (Fieldwork)
Phase 4 (Years 10–11)	Natural Hazards	The Living World (Biomes and Rainforests)	Urban Challenges	Economic World Changes	Resource Management	Geographical Applications and Fieldwork