



Wider curriculum at Hoyland Springwood

As a small school, we have a complex class structure. We have three Key Stage 2 classes covering 4 different year groups. Each year the composition of these classes change. This means our wider curriculum had to be mapped out carefully to consider the coverage of the National Curriculum.

When creating our personalised curriculum, it was important that we developed connections between different concepts and subjects, allowing children to see the relevance and interrelatedness of their learning. These can be seen through our 4 year overviews, 2 year overviews and subjects that work on a one year cycle.

Subjects on a 4 year cycle

History and Geography

Every pupil has to be taught the specific aspects of the History and Geography curriculum. The only way to ensure this is accessible to all pupils in Key Stage 2 at Hoyland Springwood, is on a 4 year programme. This means that every pupil within Key Stage 2 is taught the same Historical or Geographical theme within each term. This ensures they can explore each topic in greater depth appropriate to their age and level of understanding by working towards answering big questions. Within each topic, knowledge is well chosen allowing each year group to focus on one particular element of the topic. The table below shows an example of the big questions studied within one History topic.

Ancient Egypt			
Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Big Question: Why was the River Nile so important	Big Question: What were the beliefs and customs of the Ancient Egyptians	Big Question: Were people long ago primitive?	Big Question: Power who has it?

History

The History curriculum has been clearly mapped out chronologically, to ensure there is a long arc of development over the pupil's time in Key Stage 2. This allows for greater comparison across themes and concepts. Key concepts have been mapped out to encourage children to be able to compare and contrast different events relating to a variety of themes. This is encouraged within their current year group, but also over time drawing on their knowledge of previously taught topics.

Geography

The Geography curriculum has been mapped out with a multifaceted purpose. This is to help the children to develop their locational knowledge, place knowledge, their knowledge of physical and human geography and to develop their fieldwork skills. The locational knowledge has been mapped out on a 4 year cycle to support the children in developing their knowledge over time. In addition to this, there is a themed approach which allows for coverage of the other elements of the geography curriculum. This is closely linked to our History topics ensuring there is a deeper understanding of the interaction between the physical and human processes, and linking this to why key events have happened in History.

Why do 4 year cycles not work on 2 year cycles?

A 2 year cycle would only work if we had purely lower key stage 2 classes and upper key stage 2 classes due to the prescriptive nature of the humanities National Curriculum. The complex mixture of classes and having a mixed upper key stage 2 and lower key stage 2 class (year 4/5) means that the topics can't be split into a 2 year cycle without repetition or omission of key parts of the National Curriculum.

Subjects on a 2 year cycle

The rest of the wider curriculum, apart from Science, is taught through 2 year cycles. This is because these subjects have repeated skills and topics and therefore can be covered in a 2 year time scale. Our 2 year cycles have been carefully mapped out ensuring coverage and equality for all pupils regardless of which key stage 2 class they are in. These subjects would not work on a 4 year cycle as the National Curriculum does to stipulate specific content in the way it does in History and Geography.

Subjects on a 1 year cycle

The National Curriculum stipulates the specific content for Key Stage 2 Science. However, because of the nature of the units, along with their progressive content, this does not allow them to be taught on a 2 or 4 year cycle with the complexity of our Key Stage 2 makeup. Due to this, Science is taught on a 1 year cycle in year groups. Special provision has been made so Science can be taught for one full afternoon each week utilising 4 teachers.