

MANCHESTER COMMUNICATION PRIMARY ACADEMY

INTENT AND SEQUENCING

Topic Page Profile

Curriculum



HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY AT MCPA

Intent

History:

The MCPA History curriculum will give children knowledge from a varied mix of modern and ancient history. By the end of Year 6, MCPA children will know about a variety of important historical figures from Britain and the wider world. They will remember important historical events which have shaped our modern world and how they link together chronologically. They will be able to glean historical knowledge by analysing a variety of sources (both primary and secondary) and evaluating them for accuracy, relevance and bias.

Geography:

The MCPA Geography curriculum will give children knowledge of a variety of human and physical geography from around the world. By the end of Year 6, MCPA children will know more about Manchester and its culture, they will remember world environmental issues regarding weather, natural disasters and pollution as well as areas of geographical interest in Africa and South America. They will be armed with geographical skills such as being able to read maps, locate different continents and countries of the world and understand direction in order to describe different locations and their positional relationship with each other.

Implementation

Topics have been arranged so that each year group receive both History and Geography lessons (with a heavier bias towards History as geographical knowledge can be taught naturally as part of a History lesson, whereas the opposite is not true).

The History and Geography curricula are mostly based around questions that we would like the children to be able to confidently answer and talk/write about. For example: ***What were the causes of World War Two? or How and why did the Romans invade Britain?***

Knowledge Organisers are used in each topic in order to give children the basic 'who', 'what', 'where' and 'when' facts about what they are about to learn. The Knowledge Organisers are referenced weekly in topic lessons and are also the basis of homework or recap tasks. Writing exercises tackle the more nuanced and complex 'how' and 'why' issues of a subject and each topic has a recommended writing genre attached to it for the children to demonstrate their understanding of the subject. Each topic has a list of essential vocabulary linked to it which the children should know and understand how to use this enables to speak and write about their subject with confidence and authority.

Links between the topics are made explicit to the children whether it is a 'skills' link (such as using maps and atlases, or evaluating historical sources) or a conceptual link (such as invasion, infamy, coastal etc). These links enable the building of knowledge upon previous learning and ensures that progression is made in manageable steps.

Each lesson begins with a set of retrieval questions which will reference the previous lesson(s) in that topic, coupled with questions on previous topics from that year and from the years before. For example, a lesson in Year 6 on the location of rainforests begins with retrieval questions about natural disasters, climate, Ancient Egypt and Emmeline Pankhurst. This ensures that the knowledge gained throughout the years remains in the long term memory and is accessible to children throughout their learning journey at MCPA.

Each topic contains a list of relevant vocabulary that is explicitly taught as part of the weekly lessons. Strategies from ***The Writing Revolution*** are employed throughout each topic with its focus on non fiction writing and scholastic and grammatical accuracy. The skills and strategies employed increase in complexity through the year groups in order to ensure literary progress as well as historical and geographical knowledge progression.

Each topic has an end of topic quiz for the children to complete. These quizzes are low stakes and are intended only to aid the children in their remembering of key facts about the subject. The quizzes contain questions about their current topic plus questions about the previous topics from that year group. This 'knowledge building' is part of the wider strategy to ensure that children remember the important aspects of each topic.

Impact

Children grow to understand the world around them and how it has been shaped by historical events and geographical phenomena. This knowledge allows them to think logically and creatively about how and why events might happen in the present and the future. It also provides them with an abundance of cultural capital which may well provide the vehicle for social mobility for them and their families.

Research

Rosenshine's Principles in Action. Tom Sherrington.

Closing the Vocabulary Gap. Alex Quigley

Why don't students like school? Daniel T Willingham

The Curriculum. Clare Sealy, Andrew Percival et al.

The Writing Revolution. Judith C Hochman

The Ebbinghaus 'forgetting curves'.