

## HUMANITIES VISION

The Humanities AoLE seeks to awaken a sense of wonder, fire the imagination and inspire learners to grow in knowledge, understanding and wisdom. At St. Robert's, we recognise that this Area has never been so important as it encourages learners to engage with the most challenging issues facing humanity today, including sustainability and social change as well as developing the skills necessary to interpret and articulate the past and the present. The Area encompasses Geography; History; Religion, Values and Ethics; Business Studies and Social Studies. These disciplines share many common themes, concepts and transferable skills, while having their own discrete body of knowledge and skills.

## WHAT DOES HUMANITIES LOOK LIKE AT ST.ROBERT'S?

At St. Robert's, an enquiry-based topic approach is used to explore the Humanities disciplines. Learners engage with authentic contexts where they are 'employed' by a client in order to work on commission as members of an expert group. Topics are launched through the use of a hook or immersion type activities and pupils' ideas are gathered and used to shape the topic. Parents and the wider community are also invited to contribute to the planning of the topic. Independent learning is encouraged through the use of chilli challenges in class as well as the use of topic homework grids for independent research in their learning logs.

Their enquiry results in a final publication which can take a variety of forms depending on the age/stage of pupils and is communicated to a range of audiences including peers, parents, governors as well as the local and global community on their 'land' day through a range of learner forums.

Currently, pupils cover four main topics relating to the different disciplines of the Humanities AoLE with some short whole school topics linking to Wales and Welsh identity and other opportunities such as Christmas Enterprise.

## RESOURCES

To support the delivery of the five disciplines within the Humanities AoLE a broad range of resources, agencies, and organisations are employed. As well as workshops, visits and trips to local historical sites and places of geographical interest. Visitors and virtual workshops are also effectively used to support learning.



# St. Robert's Catholic



## Primary

# HUMANITIES

## HUMANITIES LEADS AND SUPPORT STAFF

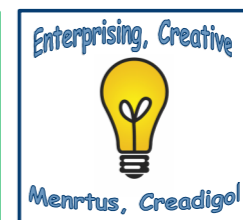
Mrs S. Lewis, Mrs S. Taylor and Miss J. Robbins



## THE 4 PURPOSES

Through this AoLE we are able to develop the 4 Purposes in a meaningful way:

- **Ethically, Informed Citizens** - The Humanities AoLE is central to learners becoming ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world through investigation and exploration of the human experience in their own localities as well as in the wider world, resulting in a sense of place and cynefin as well as an appreciation of the ethnic and cultural diversity in Wales enabling them to contribute positively to their communities.
- **Enterprising, Creative Contributors** - The Humanities AoLE will allow learners the opportunity to engage with local, national and global challenges of the past and present in order to play a full part in life and work by reflecting on their actions and those of others and take social action.
- **Ambitious and Capable Learners** - The Humanities AoLE will help learners become ambitious and capable, ready to learn throughout their lives through participating in enquiry based learning while developing a solid base of knowledge and understanding across the disciplines.
- **Healthy, Confident Individuals** - The Humanities AoLE will provide the opportunity for learners to explore personal and world views, ethical challenges and social inclusion issues as well as opportunities to explore the natural world within and beyond Wales, fostering a sense of well-being, resilience, independence, self-confidence and self-esteem.



## CROSS CURRICULAR LINKS

Cross curricular links are thoroughly explored through the Humanities enquiry based topic approach and are contributed to through pupil voice and consultation with parents. Many genres of writing are developed as well as listening and speaking skills through P4C opportunities. Resulting in strong links with LLC. Authentic contexts are provided for the development of Maths and Numeracy skills through the use of data and links to money and budgeting. Scientific knowledge linking to physical geography is explored and knowledge of the impact on society of scientific and technological advancements are considered. Through links with Health and Well-being, individual and collective decision-making supports ethical and sustainable responses to challenges and opportunities that are faced by humanity in general and in Wales in particular. Expressive Arts opportunities are developed within topics and explore the arts from various times, cultures and societies, including from Wales throughout the year.

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## CYNEFIN

Pupils have the opportunity to study our local community now and in the past. They look at how world and national events impacted on Wales through history and shape our future. Pupils learn about how our country and local area are governed. Links are made with Welsh businesses and agencies such as Sony, Dwr Cymru, Size of Wales, Cenin Renewables, ADUC (Aberkenfig and District Churches) and many more.



## HUMANITIES

### OUTDOOR LEARNING

Within our Outdoor learning sessions all learners undertake a unit of Humanities work; usually of 6 sessions that focus on the development and reinforcement of Humanities knowledge and skills.

### HUMANITIES WITHIN A FAITH SCHOOL

As a faith school, we have our own Catholic RED curriculum and Inspection Framework. We are currently using the KIP and Friends resource to support the implementation of the new RED which becomes statutory in September 2025.

Social action is a very strong feature of our school and many of the Humanities topics result in some form of social action which is initiated and organised by pupils. This can take the form of raising funds for charities, standing in solidarity with those who are in need or whose rights are not respected, raising awareness of the plight of others and the plight of the planet.

The St Bob's COGs (St Robert's Community Outreach Group) are currently co-ordinating the CAFOD Live Simply Award throughout the school. They have completed an action plan consisting of 9 actions committed to living simply, sustainably and in solidarity which will be led and participated in by all pupils as well as involve members of our school local and parish community. All topics where appropriate are linked to Pope Francis' encyclical letters of Laudato Si and Fratelli Tutti where pupils focus on care for our common home, the importance of being united as a global family and working for the common good.

The Humanities disciplines are supported by the Catholic Pupil Profile virtue pairs of being curious and active; learned and wise; compassionate and loving; intentional and prophetic; faith-filled and hopeful; grateful and generous; eloquent and truthful.



### LEARNING OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM - TRIPS, VISITS ENRICHMENT, CLUBS

Outside of the classroom, the children experience a wide range of opportunities that support this AoLE. This includes trips to a wide range of local and national places of interest such as St Fagan's, Llancaiach Fawr, Caerleon, Cardiff Castle, Bryngarw Park, Swansea University's Egypt Centre, Cardiff Bay, Plantasia, the Senedd, Dunraven Bay, Cenin Renewables, The Imperial War Museum, The Natural History Museum as well as local farms and zoos. There are also a wide range of virtual opportunities used to enhance learning experiences such as virtual Ancient Mayan workshops, a virtual parliament workshop, CAFOD live assemblies. Visitors such as CAFOD, local pet/animal experts and Super Savers are also a valuable resource.

Pupils also have the opportunity to participate in Humanities enrichment days where they will be immersed in the focus of the topic and celebrate their learning enquiry.

