



Humanities Long Term Plan



Independence &
Preparation for
Adulthood

Intent:

The Humanities curriculum at Westbury Academy, encompassing History and Geography, equips pupils with the knowledge, skills, and understanding needed to become independent, reflective, and responsible individuals. It plays a central role in our wider intent of **Preparation for Adulthood**, fostering the confidence, curiosity, and critical thinking required to navigate and contribute meaningfully to the world around them.

From Years 3 to 7, Humanities is delivered through Curriculum Maestro, offering rich, thematic units that provide the foundation for a more explicitly sequenced and subject-specific curriculum in Years 8 and 9. This progression ensures coherence, depth, and clarity, with concepts, disciplinary knowledge, skills, and understanding revisited and extended over time.

Our curriculum enables pupils to explore historical events and geographical processes that have shaped societies, environments, and identities. Through this lens, pupils are encouraged to examine human behaviour, environmental change, and social development, developing resilience, personal responsibility, and respectful dialogue.

Citizenship is deliberately woven throughout, alongside termly drop-down days, with concepts such as democracy, justice, identity, and interdependence embedded across key stages. These elements support pupils in understanding their rights and responsibilities and foster a sense of active citizenship.

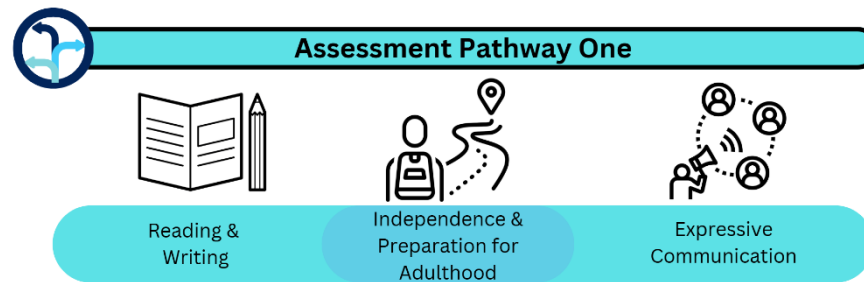
While RE is taught discretely in years 3-8 and follows its own long-term plan, it complements Humanities by deepening pupils' understanding of culture, belief systems, and ethical perspectives.

Ultimately, the curriculum prepares **Pupils for Adulthood** by building their confidence and **Independence**, encouraging respectful dialogue, and fostering a deeper awareness of themselves, others, and the communities they are part of.



Humanities (History and Geography): Westbury's Assessment Pathways

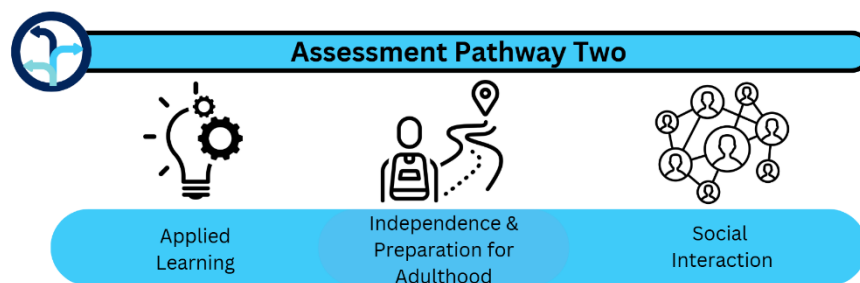
The humanities curriculum at Westbury is designed and assessed through Westbury's Assessment Pathways. Each pathway ensures pupils access humanities at a level suited to their individual needs and development.



Pupils are supported in developing early enquiry and observational skills. They are beginning to make simple connections between the past and present, recognise diversity, and explore how people live and interact with the world around them.

This is supported by a focus on:

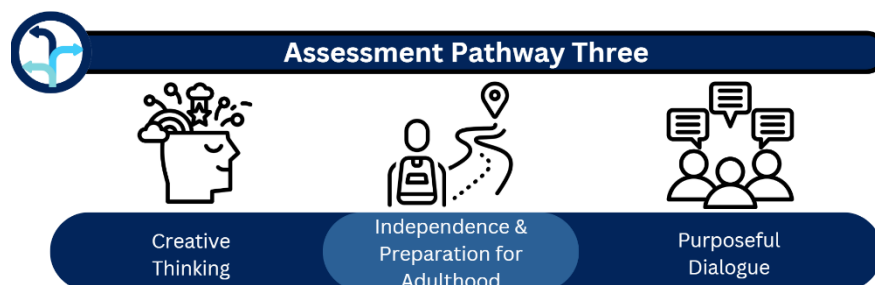
- Identifying differences between countries, environments, and historical societies while fostering respect for diverse beliefs and cultures.
- Asking simple questions about people, events or places.
- Recognising what sources and maps show.
- Understanding their responsibility within a community or environment.



Pupils are supported in growing their confidence within their own understanding of historical and geographical concepts. They engage with enquire, begin to explore complex issues, and can reflect on the impact of human actions in both past and present contexts.

This is supported by a focus on:

- Explaining how geography and history has shapes people's lives and societies whilst making comparisons between cultures or eras.
- Using a variety of sources such as maps, data, and texts to draw reasoned conclusions.
- Reflecting on the impact of human actions on the environment or society.
- Applying knowledge to anticipate and address future challenges like sustainability.



Pupils are encouraged to use thinking and enquiry skills to explore and evaluate complex ideas. They are supported in making meaningful connections across time and place, express well-reasoned arguments, and demonstrate a strong awareness of their own impact in the wider world.

This is supported by focus on:

- Evaluating complex global issues including climate change, migration and conflict with historical and geographical insight.
- Developing active citizenship by proposing solutions or expressing informed opinions.
- Building criticality and evaluating evidence and sources for bias, reliability or perspective.
- Exploring how past decisions affect present and future societal outcomes.



Personal Development and Careers Links

The humanities curriculum at Westbury Academy plays a key role in supporting pupils' Personal Development. Through carefully planned learning experiences, pupils build a strong sense of identity, cultural awareness and moral understanding, while developing critical thinking, communication and problem-solving skills that prepare them to engage with the world as informed, respectful and responsible citizens.

Personal Development Links

- Promotes tolerance, respect, and deliberation of diversity - key element of spiritual, moral, social, and cultural (SMSC) development and British Values.
- Supports pupils in developing self-awareness, pride in their heritage, and a sense of identity and belonging.
- Builds decision-making, reasoning, and problem-solving skills that prepare pupils for responsible citizenship.
- Enhances pupils' moral understanding and encourages them to consider fairness, justice, and ethical responsibility.
- Inspires a sense of agency, encouraging pupils to make informed, responsible choices and contribute to a better world.
- Helps pupils develop emotional maturity, gratitude, and the ability to cope with challenges.
- Develop social skills, empathy, and the ability to communicate effectively and respectfully.
- Enrichments through educational visits that broaden the pupils' horizons by providing real-world experiences that deepen and support understanding, foster curiosity, and promote cultural awareness.

Careers Links

- Careers in Historical and Geographical Research: pupils are introduced to historians, archaeologists, geographers, and researchers. Alongside these lessons often include the use of evidence, analysis, and interpretation, which mirrors the work of professional researchers.
- Global and Environmental Careers: through units on climate change, sustainability and natural disasters pupils understand the need for professionals who manage and protect the environment. Pupils also explore how data collection and fieldwork are used in real-world environmental decision-making.
- Travel, Tourism and Cultural Industries: Across the geography units pupils spend time focusing on regions, landmarks, and world cultures, while history can look at world heritage sites and major historical events that shape tourism.
- Education and Outreach: Pupils may be inspired by the role of teachers, educators, and museum/visitor centre professionals who communicate history and geography to others.



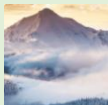
Humanities: Geography and History Overview – Nurture

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10	Week 11	Week 12	Week 13	Week 14
Autumn Term	Me and My Community Understanding the World (Geography)  Children settle into school life by making friends, learning kindness, and discovering what makes them unique. They explore the importance of people around them and their local community. This Geography-based topic primarily links to <i>Understanding the World</i>, focusing on <i>People, Culture and Communities</i>. It also supports <i>Personal, Social and Emotional Development</i> and <i>Communication and Language</i> by fostering belonging and encouraging children to express their understanding of their community.							Long Ago Understanding the World (History)  Children explore how they have grown and how life was different in the past. This topic links directly to the <i>Past and Present</i> strand of <i>Understanding the World</i> in the EYFS framework. Through family history, artefacts, stories, and comparisons of old and new, children develop an early understanding of time and change.						
Spring Term	Once Upon a Time Communication and Language (Creative)  Children engage with classic stories such as <i>Cinderella</i>, <i>Goldilocks</i>, and <i>The Three Little Pigs</i>, learning to retell and act them out. This topic primarily links to <i>Communication and Language</i>, focusing on listening, speaking, and understanding. It also supports <i>Expressive Arts and Design</i> and <i>Literacy</i> by fostering creative storytelling, role play, and early reading and writing skills.							Bright Lights, Big City Understanding the World (Geography)  Children explore life in London, learning about its transport, famous landmarks, and historical events such as the Great Fire of London. They'll build models, track how the fire spread, and help Marley the Meerkat plan his city adventure before visiting London Zoo. This topic links closely to <i>Understanding the World</i>, particularly the <i>People, Culture and Communities</i> strand. It supports children in exploring and comparing environments, recognising human features, and discussing key locations.						
Summer Term	Dangerous Dinosaurs Understanding the World (History)  Children learn about the fascinating animals that roamed the Earth millions of years ago and explore how they relate to animals living today. This topic links primarily to <i>Understanding the World</i>, through both the <i>Past and Present</i> and <i>The Natural World</i> strands. It introduces early historical thinking, alongside learning about animals, habitats, and discovery through fossils.							Rio de Vida Expressive Arts and Design (Creative)  Children explore the vibrant culture of Brazil through music, dance, and celebration. They will create colourful masks and headdresses, learn samba-inspired moves, discover Brazilian folklore, and enjoy imaginative role-play and creative expression. This topic supports the <i>Expressive Arts and Design</i> area of the EYFS framework, with a focus on <i>Creating with Materials</i> and <i>Being Imaginative and Expressive</i>.						

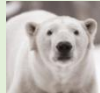
Humanities: Geography and History Overview – Year 3/4

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10	Week 11	Week 12	Week 13	Week 14
Autumn Term	Street Detectives Geography  This exciting project teaches pupils about their local community and how it has changed over time. They explore nearby streets, create maps, and develop writing skills through directions and adverts. As Street Detectives, pupils investigate their surroundings and think of ways to improve their area.							Towers, Tunnels and Turrets History  This imaginative project takes pupils on an adventure through castles, towers, and tunnels. They'll explore how to build strong structures, measure height, and design bridges that can hold weight.						
Spring Term	Beat, Band, Boogie Creative  This lively project teaches pupils to explore sound through music and movement. They learn to identify instruments, create rhythms with their bodies, and perform with confidence—marching, clapping, and shaking to the beat.							Tremors Geography  This powerful project teaches pupils about natural disasters and the forces that shape our planet. They explore earthquakes, volcanoes, and the impact of events like Pompeii, while investigating different types of rock and creating model eruptions.						
Summer Term	Tribal Tales History  This project explores prehistoric Britain, where pupils learn how people lived, hunted, and built monuments. They work together, discover ancient artefacts, and connect with history through storytelling and reflection.							Scrumdiddlyumptious! Creative  This tasty project explores fruits, vegetables, and foods from around the world. Pupils enjoy stories, create recipes, and cook healthy dishes while learning how good food helps them grow strong. They even make their own smoothies and think about what it means to be “what you eat.”						

Humanities: Geography and History Overview – Year 5/6

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10	Week 11	Week 12	Week 13	Week 14
Autumn Term	Traders and Raiders History  This project explores the Dark Ages, teaching pupils about the Saxons and Vikings—their lives, battles, and cultures.							Misty Mountain Sierra Geography  This project explores mountains—how they form, the water cycle, and the people who live in the Himalayas. Pupils plan an eco-friendly expedition and imagine encountering the mysterious Yeti.						
Spring Term	Potions Creative  This project explores the magical world of potions, teaching pupils about materials and their properties. They create their own potions while learning about safe and dangerous mixtures, inspired by stories like Romeo and Juliet and Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland.							Off with Her Head History  This project takes pupils back to Tudor times to explore the royal court’s drama, danger, and intrigue. They develop painting and detective skills while investigating famous trials and learning what life was really like under this powerful dynasty.						
Summer Term	Time Traveller Geography  This project explores how people grow and change over time. Pupils learn about development from babies to adults, compare growth in different animals, and imagine time travel to past or future moments.							Allotment Creative  This project teaches pupils how to grow vegetables, care for plants, and cook seasonal foods. They learn about farming, write reports on global produce, and run a farmers’ market to sell their crops and crafts.						

Humanities: Geography and History Overview – Year 7

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10	Week 11	Week 12	Week 13	Week 14
Autumn Term	Hola Mexico! Geography  This project explores Mexico's culture, history, and geography. Pupils make traditional food, learn about the ancient Maya, create music, and discover what it takes to be a tribe chief.							Fallen Fields History  This project explores the First World War, its causes, and its impact on soldiers and families. Pupils learn about life in the trenches, the home front, and how peace was finally achieved, remembering those who sacrificed so much.						
Spring Term	Gallery Rebels Creative  This project explores bold and rebellious art, inspiring pupils to express themselves through painting and sculpture. They discover how art can challenge ideas and create powerful messages for the future.							Frozen Kingdom Geography  This project explores the planet's coldest places, teaching pupils about the harsh environment, wildlife, and climate. They research ecosystems, write poems about the Northern Lights, and imagine joining a daring Antarctic rescue team.						
Summer Term	Revolution History  This project takes pupils back to Victorian times to explore strict schools, famous inventions, and life for rich and poor. They role-play as reformers, presenting ideas to improve society and gain support.							Tomorrow's World Creative  This project teaches pupils about modern communication and technology. They create blogs, design websites, explore inventions, build robots, and write stories—preparing to shape the world of tomorrow.						

Humanities: Geography and History Overview – Year 8

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10	Week 11	Week 12	Week 13	Week 14
Autumn Term	English: Civil War History  This project explores the causes and impact of the Civil War. Pupils learn about key events, important figures, and how the conflict changed society.							Weather and Erosion Geography  This project explores weather and erosion, showing how wind, rain, and waves shape the land. Pupils learn how caves, arches, and other coastal features form, and discover the power of nature to change the world around us.						
Spring Term	Slavery, Resistance, Abolition History  This project explores the history of slavery, the courage of those who resisted, and the fight to abolish it. Pupils learn about key events, important figures, and how the struggle for freedom changed society forever.							Applied Geography: Local Study  This project focuses on applied geography through a local study. Pupils explore their own community, examining its features, environment, and how people live and work there. They develop skills in mapping, observation, and data collection to understand the world around them.						
Summer Term	Power and Protest: A fight for the vote History  This project explores the suffragettes and their fight for women's right to vote. Pupils learn about their protests, challenges, and achievements, discovering how their bravery helped change history and secure equality.							Africa: A diverse continent Geography  This project explores the diverse countries of Africa. Pupils learn about the continent's cultures, landscapes, and wildlife, discovering its rich history and the people who live there today.						

Humanities: Geography and History Overview – Year 9

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10	Week 11	Week 12	Week 13	Week 14
Autumn Term	Holocaust and Genocide History  This project teaches pupils about the Holocaust and other genocides. They learn the history, understand the impact on people, and explore the importance of remembering to prevent such tragedies in the future.							Urban Features Geography  This project explores urban features and how cities are designed and built. Pupils learn about key elements like transport, housing, landmarks, and green spaces, and discover how urban areas meet the needs of the people who live and work there.						
Spring Term	Living through the Plague History  This project explores what life was like during the Bubonic Plague. Pupils learn about its causes, how it spread, and the impact it had on people and communities.							Climate Crisis and Global Responsibility Geography  This project explores the climate crisis and our shared global responsibility. Pupils learn about the causes and effects of climate change, the impact on people and the planet, and how we can all take action to build a more sustainable future.						
Summer Term	Windrush Generation, National Impact, Local Voices History  This project explores the Windrush Generation and their lasting impact on Britain. Pupils learn about the experiences of those who arrived, the challenges they faced, and their contributions to national life—while also listening to local stories that bring this history close to home.							Local Field Work Investigation Geography  This project focuses on a local fieldwork investigation, where pupils explore their environment first-hand. They collect data, observe patterns, and draw conclusions about how their local area is used, changed, or cared for.						

In Year 9, RE is delivered through the Humanities curriculum rather than as a standalone subject (in years 3-8 it is delivered through Jigsaw). For example, during the ‘Holocaust and Genocide’ history unit in the autumn term, pupils explore themes such as moral responsibility, belief, and remembrance from an RE perspective.