

British heritage

Learning about how we live in modern Britain today and how this has been influenced over time



Why is this big idea so important for our children to understand?

While the CUSP curriculum is absolutely rooted in understanding our place in the world, we have amplified opportunities to understand British heritage throughout the sequence. This includes understanding the history of our nation, studying those who have influenced life as we know it and understanding the values that underpin what it means to be British. These concepts are represented throughout the offer, with a significant focus on inspiring positive values in the young people studying the curriculum. Alongside this, we have deliberately built in studies that provoke learners to think carefully about what lessons we can learn from those who have gone before us.

Where can I find examples of this big idea across the CUSP curriculum?

Below are some examples of where this big idea is explicitly explored within the CUSP curriculum. This is not an exhaustive list but a starting point to help teachers understand the 3-dimensional nature of the curriculum architecture. Teachers should aim to explicitly connect learning within and across subjects to help build strong schemas of long-term understanding.

History

Year 1 – Lives of significant people

A study of significant individuals in British history e.g. Tim Peake, Mary Anning

Year 2 – Events beyond living memory

An introduction to key events which shaped British history e.g. the Great Fire of London

Year 5 – A non-European society that provides contrasts with British history

Benin (West Africa) c.900 -1300 CE

Year 6 – Monarchs through time

A study of five British monarchs and their individual and collective legacies

Reading:

Year 1 – The Owl and the Pussycat

An introduction to a great British poet

Year 3 – The Magician's Nephew

A study of the first in a classic British series

Year 4 – The Boy at the Back of the Class

A story that demonstrates the values of kindness, tolerance and courage

Year 5 – A Midsummer Night's Dream

An introduction to a literary great - Shakespeare

Year 6 – All Aboard the Empire Windrush

A diary of a young boy arriving on the Empire Windrush and his journey to England

Geography:

Year 1 – UK countries, capital cities

An introduction to the make-up of the UK

Year 2 – Comparison of UK and contrasting country

An exploration of the similarities and differences between the UK and Nairobi

Year 3 – UK study

A study of the regions, counties and cities of the UK

Y5 – Maps and fieldwork

Studies of our local areas and contrasting UK localities

Art and Design/Design and Technology:

The work of British artists and designers is studied throughout the curriculum, alongside those from other areas of the world. This includes William Morris (Y2), Patrick Caulfield (Y6), Jamie Oliver (Y4).