Technology and the advancement of humanity

Recognising the advances that have been made throughout history and how these impact on life today







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

The world is changing, perhaps faster than it has ever changed in history. New technologies are changing the way we live, work and interact with each other. With this comes the opportunity for pupils to experience life in ways that we can't even begin to imagine yet. Educating pupils about how and why the world is changing and inspiring them to be part of the drive to shape the future is an important thread in the CUSP curriculum. We want the pupils that we serve to believe that anything is possible for them and the lives ahead of them. Our ambition is to help pupils understand how to navigate a changing world and the opportunities that are open to them to be part of shaping this.

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.

CUSP Assemblies:

Summer assembly 4: Changes

Autumn assembly 10: News

Spring term assembly 6: Earth Day

History

Year 2 Event beyond living memory - Flight:

Pupils learn about flight technology and how it has developed over time

Year 3 The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain:

Reference to how Britain changed under Roman rule due to the development of technology in this time

Year 4 Ancient civilisation - Shang Dynasty:

Reference to the achievements of the Shang Dynasty and how these impact the way we live in the world today

Year 6 Study of five monarchs:

Reference to the industrial revolution under the reign of Queen Victoria and the impact of technological advancement in this time

Music

Year 5 and 6: Music technology

A chance to learn about how technology influences music production and how this has changed over time

Science

Year 6: Evolution and inheritance

Reference to emerging technology around the understanding of DNA and the potential implications of this for medical science

Reading:

Year 1 - Look Up!

An inspiring story about a young girl's interest in space travel

Year 2 - A planet full of plastic

Explores the changing use of plastic and development of recycling technology

Year 3 - Operation Gadgetman

A great adventure story about the kidnap of a famous inventor

Year 6 - Pig Heart Boy

Explores the advancement of medical science and the ethical considerations of this

Year 6 - How to live forever

Explores themes of immortality and the pros and cons of this

