

Overview

The faculty comprises History, Geography and RE.

The team is led by two joint Heads of Humanities with support from Heads of History, Geography and RE. We have a clear development planning process and our current goals include developing an exceptional learning environment, improving pupils' progress and raising attainment. The team is committed to the high-quality delivery of our curriculum and to supporting all pupils in developing the knowledge and understanding to understand the world around them and to achieve their potential in public exams.

Subjects within the faculty are very popular within the school. All pupils study RE to GCSE and high numbers of pupils opt for history and geography at key stage 4. At A-level significant numbers opt for humanities subjects and these lead to successful outcomes. We run successful trips within the UK and abroad and lead several cross-curricular days and activities during term time. We have developed very strong links with Oxford University Department of educational Studies and a number of our teachers act as mentors to PGCE trainees and newly qualified teachers.

At Magdalen pupils start their GCSE courses in year 9. Our KS3 curriculum has been developed to reflect that, as shown below.

The Curriculum

Key Stage 3

All the Key Stage 3 classes are taught to mixed ability groups with three one-hour lessons per fortnight in Key Stage 3.

RE

Year 7 – Who is God?, Life of Jesus, Hinduism, Sikhism, Islam and Judaism

Year 8 – Inspirational figures, Movements within Christianity, Cross Curricular RE, Relationships and Families, Extremism.

History

Year 7: Introduces the story of power that runs throughout Key Stage 3. Starting in 1066, Medieval Monarchs, Crusades and Tudors. How does power grow and change?

Year 8: Continues the story of power. Medicine and Science changing our world and the Power of Protest – American Civil Rights, Women and NICRA

Year 9: Explores the power of people and warfare to shape history and society. WWI and II, the power of individuals in the 20th century, Cold War and modern politics.

Geography

Year 7 –Introduction to Geography, Resources, Ecosystems, Tourism, Our warming planet.

Year 8 – Impossible places, Coasts, BRICS, Restless Earth

Year 9- Population, Glaciation, Development, Globalisation, Weather and Climate.

Fieldwork is an important element of study at all levels. Local studies form the basis of enquiry at Key Stage 3.

Key Stage 4

Subject	Exam Board
RE	AQA
History	Edexcel
Geography	AQA

Key Stage 5

We are a very popular faculty for A levels, with most students in the 6th form studying one or more of our subjects.

Subject	Exam board
RE	AQA
History	OCR
Geography	Edexcel