

The Humanities Faculty

The Humanities Faculty at Huntcliff School is made up of three departments consisting of History, Geography and Modern Foreign Languages, currently teaching French. The Faculty Team is led by a Faculty Director who is also subject leader for History. Each department has its own subject leader and in total the team has seven teachers, all of whom are subject specialists. An eighth colleague is a member of the Senior Leadership Team, teaching one History class.

As such the Humanities Faculty boasts a wealth of ideas, skills and experience and prides itself on teamwork, support and the dedicated contribution of all colleagues in supporting our pupils. The Faculty has been routinely praised for a positive learning environment, based on engaging teaching and learning and a focus on high expectations. To this end, subjects such as Geography and History see high numbers of students taking them as options at KS4.

We are housed in one block within the school. History and French, have two classrooms, Geography has three classrooms. Each of the rooms has an interactive whiteboard and visualisers. When pupils need to use ICT facilities we have dedicated access to the school Resource Centre.

French

French is taught by two specialists, one of whom is a native speaker. Teaching and learning is based around a wide variety of activities but centred on interaction and collaboration. A key aspect of the curriculum is to ensure that learning a language is authentic to the modern world and helps pupils to develop into global citizens. The department are currently arranging a trip to Paris in the Spring term of 2023.

We follow the AQA board exam board and this year the department was the best performing subject in the school, with 100% of the cohort achieving a Grade 5 or above.

Geography

Geography is a very popular subject at Huntcliff with a consistently high take up at KS4. It also consistently ranks as one of the best performing subject areas in the school, with students following the AQA spec.

Two subject specialists make up the department. Teaching and Learning aims to engender understanding and interest in the world around us and is again, based on collaborative learning. There is also a real focus on pupil progress with high expectations of pupils to both enjoy and achieve, within a positive learning environment.

History

History is also a very popular subject at Huntcliff with a high take up at KS4. The curriculum aims to develop not only knowledge of the past, and understanding of key concepts, but also aims to build skills based on analysis and evaluation, for example, in the use of sources.

The two-person department uses teaching and learning to revisit key themes and thus develop the culture capital of pupils. Learning is collaborative and pupils are engaged in their learning through a variety of activities. Pre-pandemic, museum visits and European trips were a key feature of the department, with another battlefield trip being planned for 2023.