

##### Humanities Faculty

The Humanities Faculty is a strong team of thirteen, well-qualified, staff teaching specialist subjects. Humanities is led by a Director of Learning, supported by a Lead Teacher and three Key Stage Leaders (KSL). The Faculty is responsible for both History and Geography at The de Ferrers Academy.

There are well equipped specialist rooms on bothcampuses, boasting an excellent selection of varied resources. It is Faculty policy to ensure access to new technologies, for example, all rooms have an interactive whiteboard, enhancing the use of interactive learning across the key stages. The Humanities Faculty is at the forefront of iPad use in the Academy. There is a very healthy “take-up" at GCSE and AS/A Level in all subjects, with significant levels of improvement over the last four years. Students from the Humanities subjects opt to continue their education at universities in a wide range of disciplines.

This is a period of intensive curriculum review, balancing the demands of the revised National Curriculum with a drive towards outstanding teaching here at The de Ferrers Academy. National Reform is reflected by students opting for their chosen Humanities subject in Y8 in order for students to access an extended timetable in Y9, in preparation for GCSE.

**HISTORY**

**At KS4 -** GCSE students follow OCR History B SHP course, studying: The People’s Health, Germany, The Norman Invasion and The Making of the USA. We use Kenilworth Castle for the site study.

**At KS5 -** We offer the OCR History A specification for AS and A2 students. We currently cover units on Post-War Britain 1929-97 (with a study of Winston Churchill) and the Unification of Italy 1789-1896 to Y12 and Y13 candidates cover units on Civil Rights in the USA 1865-1992 and a wider option for the coursework unit.

**GEOGRAPHY**

**KS4** follow the New AQA Geography course which considers: The challenge of Natural Hazards, The Living World, Physical Landscapes in the UK, Urban Issues and Challenges, The Changing economic World and the Challenge of Resource Management.

**KS5** We study AQA A Geography.  Topics include physical topics such as; Rivers, Coasts and Tectonics, and Human topics including Population, The Geography of Health, World Cities and Globalisation.  
  
We teach field study skills which is worth 25% of the students’ final mark. As part of this, students have a residential experience to develop their field study skills.  
  
We also have a number of extra curricula activities, including a trip to Iceland.

The new A Level will see the return of coursework, replacing the skills paper.

A wide variety of enrichment activities are provided by staff including: catch up and revision sessions, the History Challenge, Environment Week, fieldwork at all levels, trips to Berlin, Hamburg, Chatsworth, and Derby University.

D R Mitchell

Director of Learning

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