



# St Cyres School

**Strive Together. Challenge Yourself.  
Realise Everyone can Succeed.**

## ***AREA OF LEARNING AND EXPERIENCE*** **Humanities**

### **Mission Statement**

**To create an exciting, relevant, experimental and constantly evolving curriculum that meets mandatory requirements, ensures universal provision, empowers all stakeholders and has the four purposes at the heart.**

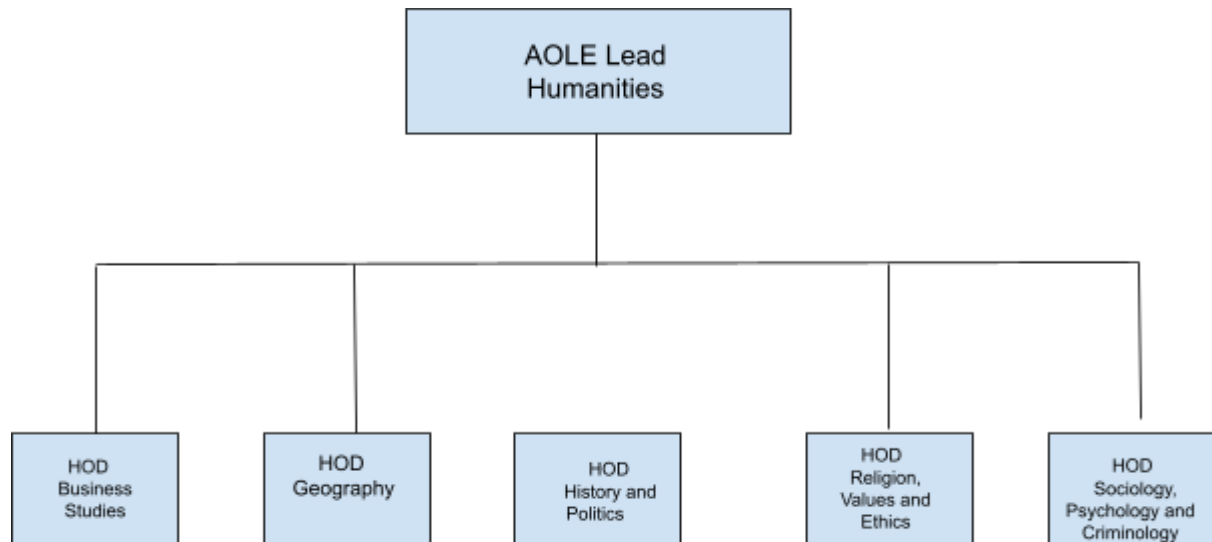
Humanities helps us understand the world around us. Our learners will become informed and critical thinkers as they engage with the most important issues facing us today in Wales and the wider world. Through their studies, learners will develop the skills necessary to interpret and articulate the past and present. Humanities encourages learners to think creatively and to ask questions about our world. Humanities teaches empathy as our learners consider key issues from different perspectives.

Humanities is central to learners becoming ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world. Learners will investigate their heritage and develop a sense of place. Learners will contemplate different perspectives as they develop an understanding of the ethnic and cultural diversity within Wales.

As our learners explore their locality and Wales, as well as the wider world, they will establish a solid base of knowledge and understanding of geographical, historical, religious, non-religious, business and social studies concepts. These experiences, in and outside the classroom, will help them become ambitious, capable learners, ready to learn throughout their lives.

At Key Stage 3, the Humanities Area encompasses Geography; History and Religion, Values and Ethics. Within these subjects, pupils will also investigate the social issues in society today as well as the factors that shape the Welsh and global economies. These subjects share many common themes, concepts and transferable skills that will be useful for all Areas across the curriculum. We strive to deliver engaging and innovative lessons that make full use of our one-to-one technology. Humanities subjects are a very popular option at both Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 with a track record of excellent academic results.

The Area consists of a wide range of specialist subjects split into five Head of Departments overseen by the AOLL for Humanities.



**AREA OF LEARNING LEAD for Humanities**  
Mr Damian Farrow



**BUSINESS STUDIES**  
**Head of Department**  
Ms Tonwen Viner



**GEOGRAPHY**  
**Head of Department**  
Ms Katherine Tomley



**HISTORY AND POLITICS**  
**Head of Department**  
Mr Connor Edwards



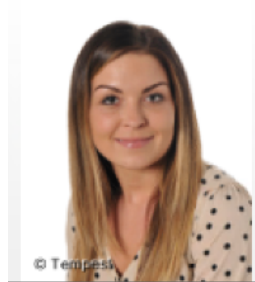
**RELIGION, VALUES AND ETHICS**  
**Head of Department**  
Ms Natalie Howells



## **SOCIOLOGY, PSYCHOLOGY AND CRIMINOLOGY**

**Head of Department**

Ms Carys Toozer



**We offer a wide range of courses within the AOLE;**

### **BUSINESS STUDIES**

The study of business introduces learners to the business world, empowering them to develop as commercially minded and enterprising individuals. Our learners have the opportunity to develop a wide range of skills, enabling them to use business information critically, to develop arguments, to make justified decisions and to prepare them for further study and career pathways. In the department we aim to introduce and nurture an enthusiasm for studying business in a range of contexts, helping our learners appreciate how businesses operate in a dynamic and competitive environment and develop an understanding of the interdependent nature of business functions from a local to a global perspective.

GCSE Business Studies

GCSE Finance

A Level Economics

**Staff within this department also include;**

Mr Richard Schofield

Mrs Lisa Shearer

Mr Damon Flynn

## **GEOGRAPHY**

The study of Geography provides pupils with a 'sense of place' by studying the processes and patterns which affect the world around us. Through Geography, pupils acquire skills in map work, fieldwork, numeracy, ICT and enquiry in order to study both the human and physical environment at a range of scales from local to global. Through a developed understanding, pupils are able to make critical and informed judgements on a range of issues which exist in the world in which we live.

Geography in St Cyres aims to inspire pupils and grow a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people. Geography should equip pupils with knowledge of diverse places, people and resources in natural and human environments. It provides a deep understanding of the interactions between physical and human processes and the formation of landscapes. Geographical knowledge, understanding and skills provide the framework that explains how the Earth's features at different scales are shaped, interconnected and change over time.

KS3 Geography  
Humanities Entry Pathways  
GCSE Geography  
A Level Geography  
L3 Travel and Tourism

**Staff within this department also include;**  
Ms Natalie Ambrose  
Mr Oliver Burrows  
Mr Rob Bruton

## **Extra curricular / Enrichment Activities**

Eco Club

### **HISTORY AND POLITICS**

By studying History at St Cyres School our pupils will gain an understanding and respect for their own and each other's different cultures, stories and traditions. Pupils will study topics throughout time at local, national and global national level. By studying History at all three levels pupils will discover their heritage and develop a sense of place and cynefin in Wales. From investigating the 12th century mediaeval village at Cosmeston to analysing 21st century methods of police investigation used throughout the UK, our pupils will be exposed to a wide variety of topics in order to gain an understanding of how their past has shaped our world today.

The study of History provides pupils with a wide range of transferable skills, including the ability to gather, analyse and evaluate historical sources of evidence. Through these sources, pupils will investigate different interpretations of key historical events and be encouraged to draw their own conclusions. Pupils will learn how to present and justify their findings to peers and teachers through a wide variety of digital literacy techniques embedded in our department's curriculum.

KS3 History  
GCSE History  
A Level History  
A Level Government and Politics

#### **Staff within this department also include;**

Ms Hannah Addicott  
Ms Leander Buttle  
Mr Damian Farrow  
Mrs Emma Laidlaw

Mr Simon Morris  
Ms Helen Tomlins

### **Extra curricular / Enrichment Activities**

D&D and Warhammer Club

### **RELIGION, VALUES AND ETHICS**

RVE is a statutory subject of the school curriculum. RVE at St Cyres contributes dynamically to pupils' education provoking challenging questions about meaning and purpose in life, beliefs about God, ultimate reality, issues of right and wrong and what it means to be human. In RVE pupils learn about and from religions and worldviews in local, national and global contexts, to discover, explore and consider different answers to these questions. They learn to weigh up the value of wisdom from different sources, to develop and express their insights in response, and to agree or disagree respectfully.

RVE equips pupils with systematic knowledge and understanding of a range of religious and worldviews, enabling them to develop their ideas, values and identities. We aim to develop in pupils an aptitude for dialogue so that they can participate positively in society with its diverse religions and worldviews. Pupils will gain and deploy the skills needed to understand, interpret and evaluate texts, sources of wisdom and authority and other evidence.

Pupils learn to articulate clearly and coherently their personal beliefs, ideas, values and experiences while respecting the right of others to differ. Alongside the subject's contribution to pupils' mental, cognitive and linguistic development, RVE offers distinctive opportunities to promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. RVE lessons offer a structured and safe space for reflection, discussion, dialogue and debate.

KS3 RVE  
GCSE RS  
A Level RS



**Staff within this department also include;**

Ms Rabia Khan  
Ms Eleanor Powell

## **SOCIOLOGY, PSYCHOLOGY AND CRIMINOLOGY**

The study of Social Sciences, which includes Sociology, Criminology and Psychology, enables pupils to develop an understanding of the complex, pluralistic and diverse nature of societies, past and present. It encourages an appreciation of identity, heritage and cynefin, influencing learners and helping to build their sense of self and of belonging. Through an understanding of themselves, learners develop their own identity and an awareness of how they, as individuals, can shape the communities in which they live. Consequently, learners will come to realise that the choices we all make, individually and collectively, can have major impacts on society.

Studying the Social Sciences can encourage a critical understanding of how societies are and have been organised, structured and led, in the learners' own locality and in Wales, as well as in the wider world. Further engagement will also encourage them to explore – and develop a tolerant and empathetic understanding of – the varied beliefs, values, traditions and ethics that underpin and shape human society. Learners become ethically informed citizens who are knowledgeable about their culture, community, society and the world, and respect the needs and rights of others, as members of a diverse society.

GCSE Sociology  
A Level Sociology  
A Level Psychology  
L3 Criminology

**Staff within this department also include;**

Ms Stephanie Jones  
Ms Christine McNamara  
Ms Lesley Jones

