KS3 Topic Long Term Plan

Brookvale Academy

Intent:

At Brookvale Academy, we help pupils make sense of the world around them by exploring key themes from history, geography, religious education and citizenship in meaningful and relevant ways. Through an engaging, enquiry-based approach, pupils develop the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to understand their place in society, appreciate different perspectives and make informed choices about their future.

Recognising the diverse experiences and needs of our pupils, learning is rooted in practical, real-life contexts that enable them to see the relevance of what they are studying. Pupils explore topics that connect to their lives and communities, such as identity, equality, diversity, sustainability, democracy, rights and responsibilities. Through these themes, pupils are encouraged to reflect on their own experiences, understand the experiences of others and develop the confidence to engage positively with the wider world.

Through history, pupils investigate significant events, people and movements that have shaped Britain and the wider world, helping them understand how the past influences the present. Geography enables pupils to explore places, communities and environmental issues, developing their understanding of both local and global challenges. Religious education promotes respect, tolerance and understanding by exploring a range of beliefs, values and traditions, while citizenship helps pupils develop knowledge of democracy, law, fairness and the responsibilities of being an active member of society.

The curriculum places a strong emphasis on discussion, critical thinking and social and emotional development. Pupils are encouraged to ask questions, express opinions, consider alternative viewpoints and build the communication skills needed to participate successfully in modern society. Learning supports the development of empathy, resilience, confidence and character while preparing pupils for life beyond school.

By the end of KS3, pupils will have developed a broader understanding of the world, their communities and themselves. They will be equipped with the knowledge, skills and values needed to become informed, respectful and responsible citizens who can contribute positively to society and confidently take their next steps into KS4 and beyond.

Brookvale ACADEMY

History:

Through studying significant periods in British history—from the Roman invasion to modern times—pupils will gain essential historical skills such as analysing sources, constructing timelines, and forming evidence-based arguments. Key events, including the Norman Conquest, Tudor reign, and both World Wars, will be explored to help pupils understand the development of Britain's national identity. Special emphasis will be placed on how these events influence contemporary British society and global affairs. By understanding their local and national heritage, pupils will develop a deeper connection to their history, fostering a sense of identity, continuity, and pride.

Geography:

Pupils will investigate how geographical factors have shaped Britain and the world, focusing on topics such as population change, environmental challenges, and the role of global connections. They will learn about the importance of sustainable development, climate change, and urbanisation, encouraging them to think critically about their own impact on the environment. Through fieldwork and map-based skills, pupils will enhance their understanding of local, national, and global landscapes, gaining the tools to analyze and interpret the world around them.

Religious Studies:

In religious studies, pupils will examine the beliefs and practices of major world religions, including Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, and others. This will enable them to develop respect and understanding for different faiths and worldviews, fostering tolerance and mutual respect. By studying religious diversity and the role of religion in shaping societies, pupils will gain insights into how beliefs impact culture, ethics, and identity, while reflecting on their own values and sense of belonging.

Citizenship:

The citizenship curriculum will empower pupils to understand their rights, responsibilities, and roles as citizens in a diverse and democratic society. Topics such as democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect will be central to their learning. They will explore contemporary issues like immigration, social change, and multiculturalism, gaining the knowledge and skills to become active, informed citizens. By encouraging critical thinking and debate, pupils will be challenged to reflect on how these issues affect both their local community and the world.

Brookvale ACADEMY

Pathway ONE

Priorities: Increased attendance, develop positive relationships, Develop simple learning behaviours

In Pathway One, learners explore British history, geography, and culture through interactive and practical methods that build curiosity and confidence. They study the evolution of British history using timelines and storytelling, and explore diverse faiths and beliefs through class discussions and visits to local places of worship, promoting respect and positive relationships. Using maps, fieldwork, and digital tools, pupils investigate Britain's rivers, lakes, and mountains, linking this to climate and sustainability projects. Lessons on British values and identity include role-play, debates, and creative projects to strengthen understanding. Across all topics, we prioritise regular attendance, positive behaviour, and simple learning routines such as active listening, participation, and reflection, with active learning.

Pathway TWO

Priorities: Increased attendance, improved engagement and participation in lessons, develop wider relationships, progress in literacy/numeracy

In Pathway Two, learners extend their knowledge of British history, culture, and geography through interactive and independent activities. They explore British history using research tasks and source analysis to build literacy, and study diverse faiths and beliefs through discussions and community links to develop wider relationships. In geography, pupils use map work, data collection, and field studies to strengthen numeracy and understanding of Britain's landscapes. Lessons on modern British values, climate, and sustainability use debates, teamwork, and creative projects to boost engagement and participation. The pathway focuses on improving attendance, encouraging curiosity, and building confident, active learners.

Pathway THREE

Priorities: consistently high attendance, consistently positive engagement and participation in lessons, appropriate positive social interactions, Academic progress.

In Pathway Three, learners show increasing independence and academic focus. They study British history through research projects and analytical writing, and explore diverse faiths and beliefs through debates and group activities that build positive social interactions. In geography, pupils use fieldwork, mapping, and data analysis to deepen understanding of Britain's landscapes and sustainability. Lessons on modern British values and identity include presentations and creative projects to encourage confident participation. The pathway prioritises high attendance, consistent engagement, and strong academic progress across all learning areas.

Brookvale ACADEMY

Autumn		Spring		Summer	
History The Evolution of British History (History/Citizenship) Pupils will be able to: 1. Describe significant events, people, and changes in British history and explain their lasting impact on the modern world. 2. Organise historical events in chronological order and connect them to show how different periods influence one another. 3. Explain how major events—	Religious Studies – Understanding diverse Faith and Beliefs (Religious Studies/History/ Citizenship) Pupils will be able to: 1. Describe the key beliefs of different religions and explain how these beliefs influence values and behaviour. 2. Interpret religious sources and their language, explaining how they relate to ethical issues. 3. Express an informed opinion on different	Geography Unveiling the Geographic Wonders of Britain: Rivers, Lakes, and Mountains (History/Geography) Pupils will be able to: 1. Identify Nottingham's physical features—including rivers, lakes, and surrounding landscapes—and describe them using accurate geographical vocabulary. 2. Explain how Nottingham's local geography fits within the wider physical geography of Britain, making	**History** Understanding Modern Britain: British Values and Cultural Identity (History/Citizenship) Pupils will be able to: 1. Describe how Britain's population has changed over time, including the impact of immigration, multiculturalism, and key historical events. 2. Explain the core British values (democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect) and identify how these values appear in everyday life,	**Geography** Climate and Sustainable Practices (History/Geography) Pupils will be able to: 1. Describe the main climate types across Britain and explain regional differences, such as between the South-East and North-West, using appropriate geographical vocabulary. 2. Explain how climate affects daily life, agriculture, and the natural environment in different regions of Britain, using specific examples.	**Geography** Building locational knowledge: Global Awareness (History/Geography) Pupils will be able to: 1. Explain the geography, culture and global importance of a diverse range of countries. 2. Evaluate how location, resources and history shape inequality and opportunity between countries. 3. Analyse global issues such as conflict, migration and trade using

Brookvale ACADEMY

such as the English Civil War or the Blitz—changed people's lives and shaped Britain's culture, society, and heritage. 4. Use digital tools to research, organise, and present historical information in clear, accurate, and creative ways. 5. Construct historical narratives and share ideas confidently, using evidence to form informed, balanced arguments about the past. **Enrichment Opportunity:**	religious meanings and demonstrate empathy and respect when discussing diverse beliefs. 4. Explain their own beliefs and values and consider how these fit within society and contemporary global issues. 5. Apply religious and ethical ideas to real-world situations and explore diversity and key moral questions such as peace, justice, and human rights.	links between local rivers, green spaces, and national landscapes. 3. Use enquiry-based questions to investigate geographical features, showing curiosity by asking, researching, and responding to questions about how natural features shape environments and human activity. 4. Understand and explain how rivers and natural features influence settlement, trade, and land use, with a specific focus on the River Trent and	laws, and institutions. 3. Analyse significant events and movements in modern British history—such as the Windrush generation, EU expansion, and Brexit—and evaluate how they shaped British identity and society. 4. Engage critically with challenging or sensitive topics, forming balanced and well-reasoned opinions about the benefits and challenges of living in a diverse, multicultural society. 5. Communicate informed viewpoints clearly and respectfully, using evidence from historical	3. Describe the causes and effects of climate change in Britain and explain why sustainability is important for the future. 4. Identify and evaluate a range of sustainable practices, such as renewable energy, water management, and sustainable farming, explaining how they address environmental challenges. 5. Design and present a creative solution to a real-world environmental issue, demonstrating understanding of climate, sustainability, and human impact.	country case studies. 4. Critically compare how different countries respond to geographical challenges. 5. Create and present solutions to complex global and regional issues.

Visit to Nottingham Castle		Nottingham's historical development. 5. Recognise environmental challenges linked to physical geography—such as flooding and climate change—and explain why protecting and conserving local natural landmarks is important. **Enrichment Opportunites:** Local visits: Attenborough Nature reserve, Wollaton Park.	case studies, debates, and research to discuss contemporary issues in modern Britain**.**		

Digital Skills

- **Google Docs/VoiceThread**: Digital storytelling and reflective writing.
- **Google Slides/Canva/Padlet**: Visual and multimedia presentation tools for research and culture.
- **Google Scholar/YouTube/BBC Bitesize**: Research platforms for current events and environmental issues.
- **Padlet/Flipgrid**: Digital tools for collaboration and ethical discussion.

- **iMovie/YouTube**: Video creation and presentation for global events.

Core Key stage end points

Students will be able to:

1. Critically evaluate a range of sources and interpretations, recognising bias and context, while reflecting on how different perspectives and lived experiences shape people's beliefs and actions.
2. Explain complex causes, patterns, and impacts across historical, geographical, and religious studies, and consider the emotional and social consequences for individuals and societies.
3. Analyse and compare interpretations of events, places, and beliefs, using empathetic understanding to explore why people disagree and how this affects relationships and communities.
4. Use specialist vocabulary to construct well-reasoned arguments while communicating respectfully, managing differences of opinion, and responding thoughtfully to others.
5. Reach informed, evidence-based judgements about past and present issues, demonstrating critical thinking, ethical awareness, and a sense of responsibility as global citizens.