



## PGCE Primary Humanities Pathway (History, Geography and RE) 2021 - 2022

Welcome to the Humanities Pathway element of your Primary PGCE course at the University of Exeter.

I am looking forward to you working with you from September for what I hope will prove to be an exciting and rewarding year. On registering, you will be given access to our virtual learning space, ELE, which contains a Humanities Pathway page, which details the course content, a full reading list and information about the assignment.

Before you begin the course, it would be good to think about how children study in the humanities for example what is their understanding of chronology or place? You can reflect on your own experience as a pupil and any more recent experience in school. Additionally the following activities will help prepare you for your course.

- Familiarise yourself with the 2014 National Curriculum Programmes of Study for History and Geography for both Key Stage 1 and 2. You will find information and documents on the curriculum at <http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/teachingandlearning/curriculum>
- Visit the Geographical Association, History Association and 'RE: Online' websites to see what support there is available for primary teachers. Consider joining any of these organisations as many more resources are available free to members. Costs of joining GA is approximately £40 and £28 for HA.
- Read a couple of the texts from the list below to help you begin to understand teaching and learning in the humanities in the primary school.

Catling, S and Willy, T. (2009) *Teaching Primary Geography* Learning Matters

Hoodless, P. (2008) *Teaching History in Primary Schools* Learning Matters

Martin, F. (2006) *Teaching Geography in Primary Schools* Chris Kington Publishing

Pickford, T., Garner, W. & Jackson, E. (2013). *Primary Humanities: Learning through Enquiry*. Sage Publications

Elton-Chalcraft, S. (ed) (2015) *Teaching Religious Education Creatively*, Abingdon: Routledge

- Observe these humanities lessons on  
History at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qrsbWnRFKLg>  
Geography at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fs0DZJt5FFA>  
and RE at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lY0ZXg7Lm88>.

Make notes on the content, the method of teaching, the activities the children undertook and the resources used. Was it taught in an interesting and interactive way? Were the children enthused? Could you see progression in their learning? Please make a record of your observations.

- Do have a look at some of the many excellent History, Geography and RE books that have been published for primary children. They will help you begin to be aware of the subject knowledge taught at KS1 and 2.

During the course you may have the opportunity to attend optional visits and trips to places of interest near Exeter and beyond. These elements of the course may involve some transport or additional costs, but are **not compulsory**. You are welcome to email me on [r.flanagan@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:r.flanagan@exeter.ac.uk) if you have any queries regarding the course.

With very best wishes  
Ruth Flanagan  
(PGCE Humanities Pathway Leader)