Learning Area Social Sciences Narrative Social Sciences







Years **0–10**

Across Years 0–10, the Social Sciences take students on a journey to understand how people, places, and systems function and change. Students explore civic, geographic, historical, and economic knowledge to make sense of and participate in their communities and the wider world.

Years **0-3**

In Years 0–3, teachers introduce students to foundational knowledge about the world, including people and places beyond their own experiences and how to participate in multicultural communities to make future decisions.

They begin to understand societies and how people interact with each other and environments, including concepts of chronology, sense of belonging, migration, and exchange. This learning focuses on local and national contexts, with students gradually expanding their horizons.

Students are taught to use sources to learn about people, places, and events and to communicate ideas about social sciences contexts.

Years **4-6**

In Years 4–6, teachers support students to expand their horizons from their local communities to the wider world.

Students explore sources that reveal how societies have changed over time and how people interact with places and environments.

Through case studies from New Zealand and beyond, teachers support students to investigate societies, political systems, and how geography and financial structures shape communities past and present.

Students are taught how to use maps, timelines, and historical narratives to communicate their learning and connect concepts such as migration, democracy, rights, and responsibilities.

Years **7-8**

In Years 7–8, teachers guide students to deepen their understanding of civic participation, governance, and te Tiriti o Waitangi | the Treaty of Waitangi as foundations of society in New Zealand.

Students explore impacts of and responses to environmental, social, and historical challenges across the Pacific and globally and engage with concepts such as identity, power, and change.

This learning builds on prior knowledge and introduces more complex ideas and contexts. Students are taught to use sources to examine perspectives, analyse responses to challenges and events, engage in social sciences dialogue, and communicate their understanding.

Years **9–10**

In Years 9–10, teachers guide students to deepen their understanding of the changing nature of places, and how societies function and change, with a focus on New Zealand's place in a globalised world.

Students explore complex contexts related to political ideologies, governance systems, and human rights frameworks, including the constitutional significance of te Tiriti o Waitangi | the Treaty of Waitangi.

Teaching supports students to engage with higher-order concepts, such as sovereignty, inequality, ethics, and power, and develop strong social sciences practices related to analysing data and sources, making decisions, and evaluating significant events and challenges.