TOPICAL TALK

CURRENT-AFFAIRS CURRICULUM

The essential knowledge needed to think and speak for ourselves about current affairs

WHAT WE *MEAN BY NEWS*

What counts as the news and where to find the news

The history of the news

News in the digital age

Important current-affairs concepts
Power, justice and scarcity

Relevant vocabulary
For example, "tabloid", "current affairs" and "social media"

SPECIFIC *NEWS STORIES*

Background context
For example, relevant history

Current facts

The most important perspectives and voices

Relevant vocabulary

KNOWLEDGE

QUESTIONING *THE NEWS*

What makes a trustworthy news source
Independence, accuracy, diversity of voices, expertise and transparency

Social media
How they affect the news we see

Misinformation and fake news
Why they exist and how to spot them

Relevant vocabulary
For example, "trust", "scepticism", "fact", "opinion" and "bias"

MAKING NEWS CONNECTIONS

Making connections...
- **between different events in the news**
  Including events affecting different groups of people, local and global events, or past and present events
- **between the news and school subjects**
  For example, History, PHSE or Citizenship
- **between news stories and news concepts**
  Including power, justice and scarcity

Vocabulary to support making connections
For example, "similarly" and "in contrast"

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