

Gosforth C of E Primary School Curriculum Statement for History



Intent

The teaching of History is considered as great importance at this school. It is our intention to inspire children's interest in the past and develop their knowledge of key historical figures and events, both in Britain and the wider world. We also aim to explore the history of the local area.

As a school, we ensure lessons enthuse and develop the children's curiosity and passion for History. We intend to provide real life experiences and creative teaching methods.

We want the children to expand their knowledge and establish history skills, including chronology to organise their understanding of the past.

We aim to encourage the children to develop their historical enquiry by asking questions, researching and reviewing evidence.

Aims

- know and understand the history of these islands as a coherent, chronological narrative, from the earliest times to the present day: how people's lives have shaped this nation and how Britain has influenced and been influenced by the wider world
- know and understand significant aspects of the history of the wider world: the nature of ancient civilisations; the expansion and dissolution of empires; characteristic features of past non-European societies; achievements and follies of mankind
- gain and deploy a historically grounded understanding of abstract terms such as 'empire', 'civilisation', 'parliament' and 'peasantry'
- understand historical concepts such as continuity and change, cause and consequence, similarity, difference and significance, and use them to make connections, draw contrasts, analyse trends, frame historically-valid questions and create their own structured accounts, including written narratives and analyses
- understand the methods of historical enquiry, including how evidence is used rigorously to make historical claims, and discern how and why contrasting arguments and interpretations of the past have been constructed
- gain historical perspective by placing their growing knowledge into different contexts, understanding the connections between local, regional, national and international history; between cultural, economic, military, political, religious and social history; and between short- and long-term timescales.

Implementation

At Gosforth C of E Primary School, a History topic is taught each half term. Teachers follow the whole school long term plan, to ensure full coverage of the curriculum, in line with the National Curriculum objectives. This long-term plan includes a two-year cycle for the mixed year classes and provision has been left available if a topic needs more time. Timelines have been displayed in

each classroom and teachers make reference to them at the beginning of each topic to develop the children's knowledge of chronology.

Children are given opportunities to learn through cross-curricular activities, including through the teaching of Literacy, Art, Music and PE. These opportunities are also provided during SMSC days which take place twice a year. Where possible educational visits are arranged to develop their topical learning.

In EYFS, the time allocated to History will vary due to the cross-curricular nature of the curriculum. The Early Years and Foundation Stage teacher plans and teaches in conjunction with the EYFS document. History forms one part of the six areas of learning, entitled 'Knowledge and Understanding of the World'.

Impact

Children will become competent historians with the understanding of a range of historical figures and events from the periods covered. The children will be equipped with historical skills and knowledge that will enable them to be ready for their transition to Key Stage 3. The children will discover that events of the past can have an impact on things that happen in the present day.