

# ST ANNE'S RC PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

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## History

### Intent

The history curriculum at St Anne's is carefully planned and structured to ensure that current learning is linked to previous learning and that the school's approaches are informed by current pedagogy. In line with the national curriculum 2014, the curriculum at St Anne's aims to ensure that all pupils: Gain a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world which helps to stimulate pupils' curiosity to know more about the past; Are encouraged to ask perceptive questions, think critically, weigh evidence, sift arguments, and develop perspective and judgement; Begin to understand the complexity of people's lives, the process of change, the diversity of societies and relationships between different groups, as well as their own identity and the challenges of their time.

The 2014 national curriculum for history aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Know and understand the history of these islands as a coherent, chronological narrative, from the earliest times to the present day.
- Know and understand significant aspects of the history of the wider world.
- Gain and deploy a historically grounded understanding of abstract terms.
- 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.
- 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.

Our aim at St. Anne's Primary and Nursery School is to encourage pupils to develop an appreciation and understanding of the past, evaluating a range of primary and secondary sources. Our historians will also be able to explain clearly how these sources give us an insight about how people around the world used to live and how these interpretations may differ.

Pupils will be taught to make links between these areas of learning, with the aim of developing engaged, motivated and curious learners that can reflect on the past and make meaningful links to the present day.

To ensure that our pupils develop a secure knowledge that they can build on, our History curriculum is organised into a progression model that outlines the skills, knowledge and vocabulary to be taught in a sequentially coherent way. Chronological Understanding; Historical Understanding; Historical Enquiry; Interpretations of History; Organisation and Communication are all mapped out to ensure that pupils build on secure prior knowledge.

### **Implementation**

Teachers create a positive attitude to history learning within their classrooms and throughout school, continuously reinforcing the expectation that all pupils will achieve mastery level in history. Our whole school approach to the teaching and learning of History involves the following:

- In Foundation Stage, history is explored throughout the ‘Understanding the World’ area of learning. This enables our early years practitioners to deliver a stimulating and challenging programme of history activities that lay the foundations for the history teaching and learning opportunities that children meet in KS1 and 2.
- In KS1 History focuses on history within living memory used to reveal aspects of change in national life; events beyond living memory that are significant nationally or globally; the lives of significant individuals in the past who have contributed to national and international achievements. History is taught in topic blocks termly which allow children to gain a deeper understanding and connections of the history being covered.
- In KS2 History continue to develop a chronologically secure knowledge and understanding of British, local and world history, establishing clear narratives within and across the periods they study. History is taught in topic blocks termly which allow children to gain a deeper understanding and connections of the history being covered.

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Toys Titanic Kings and Queens	Great fire of London Marie Curie History of communication/ technology	Canals Stone Age to Iron Age Ancient Egypt	Romans History of Medicine Anglo Saxons	Vikings Mayans Local Study	WW1 Industrial Revolution Ancient Greece

- Each year group has a progression ladder to follow. This ensures that each child is building upon their historical knowledge each year. These ladders inform teaching and learning outcomes.

- Emphasis is placed on the development of skills and a historical perspective alongside factual knowledge. A variety of teaching approaches are used:
  - Teacher presentations, roleplay, drama, storytelling.
  - Class discussions and debates
  - Individual and group research
  - Investigating artefacts and sources of evidence
  - Fieldwork, visits to museums and historical sites
  - Guest speakers
- Regular events, such as Black History Month or project days, allow all pupils to come off timetable, to provide broader provision and the acquisition and application of knowledge and skills. We hope that in the future these events will grow to involve families and the wider community.

### **Impact**

We believe that at St Anne's, our consistent, school-wide, progressive, enquiry-led approach to teaching history results in a fun, engaging, high-quality history education that provides our children with an appreciation of their own identity and the world around them. The children are taught to think like historians and challenge society's understanding of the past and present- history is not just a collection of facts! Children at St. Anne's are passionate about history, they are inspired learners and with a secure understanding of history.