



History at Downview



Intent: This is why we teach what we teach:

At Downview Primary, History is fully inclusive to every child. Our aims are to: fulfil the requirements of the National Curriculum for History, provide a broad and balanced curriculum and ensure the progressive development of knowledge and skills.

At Downview Primary School, our intent when teaching History is to stimulate the children's curiosity in order for them to develop their knowledge, skills and understanding. The study of significant events in British and World history ignites children's curiosity about the past in Britain and the wider world. Through finding out about how and why the world, our country, culture and local community have developed over time, children understand how the past influences the present. History enables children to develop a context for their growing sense of identity and sets a chronological framework for their knowledge of significant events and people. What they learn through history can influence their decisions about personal choices, attitudes and values: history informs and helps develop life skills for our young people in becoming responsible citizens.

Implementation: This is what we do:

To ensure high standards of teaching and learning in History, we implement a curriculum that is progressive throughout the whole school.

Curriculum and Skills

In History, we develop children's chronological knowledge through units of work throughout the year in line with the skills and knowledge specified in the National Curriculum. Teaching develops children's knowledge and understanding of British and world history, and encourages children to make connections between areas of study. Children are encouraged to ask historically-valid questions, and respond to these thoughtfully, using sources and drawing on relevant historical information. Where possible, History topics are linked with other subjects, to encourage children to make connections across the curriculum.

Planning and Delivery of Curriculum

Based upon the National Curriculum Objectives, we have designed a History curriculum that draws skills and knowledge links across the subjects within topics in each year group.

Challenge and Support

Teachers create a positive and enthusiastic attitude towards History, supporting children with scaffolded and differentiated tasks. High expectations are set in response to the view that all children can achieve well in History.

Enrichment

Visits and visitors are organised to share their expertise, bringing a real life and relevant context to their learning.

Impact: By the time children leave our school, they will:

Within History, we strive to create a supportive and collaborative ethos for learning by providing investigative and enquiry based learning opportunities to help children gain a coherent knowledge and understanding of each topic of work covered throughout the school.

The children's attainment and progress within a topic is assessed by means of informal teacher assessment during lessons, marking, and book scrutiny as a teaching team. At the end of each year we make a summative judgement about the achievement of each pupil. At this point we decide upon a 'best fit' judgement as to whether the pupil has achieved and embedded the expected learning goals, exceeded expectations or is still working towards the goals. This decision draws upon the professional knowledge and judgement that teachers possess about the progress of each pupil. Achievement against the learning goals for history at the end of the year is used as the basis of reporting progress to parents.