

Cheddington Combined School

Enjoying our learning...sharing our success



Subject Overview for History

Date reviewed: September 2024

Next review date: September 2025

History at Cheddington Combined School

The National Curriculum for primary history states that

‘Pupils gain a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain’s past and that of the wider world. It should inspire pupils’ curiosity to know more about the past. Teaching should equip pupils to ask perceptive questions, think critically, weigh evidence, sift arguments, and develop perspective and judgement. History helps pupils 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.’

Intent:

Through teaching History in our school, we intend to spark an interest and curiosity in children and lead them to enquire more about the past. Through these enquiries, we intend to develop a child’s understanding about how the world and humans today are shaped by events and people in history. Our high-quality history lessons lead children to build upon knowledge and previous skills, beginning to think and act as historians. Pupils’ knowledge and skills are developed as they progress through the school. Learning about History in a cross-curricular way, the children begin to understand the chronological links between different topics. We motivate our children to be active learners by engaging them with a range of learning opportunities, enrichment activities and trips that give each individual an opportunity to question and embrace the past. Our curriculum aims to embrace the use of Historical evidence within lessons to support children in their enquiry and understanding of each topic. We aim to provide children with opportunities to support, evaluate and challenge themselves as learners, developing their critical and analytical approach to thinking and learning. At Cheddington we combine interactive lessons and workshops within our school grounds with educational visits to places of local interest. These have included trips to Bletchley Park for the study of code-breaking in WWII, Waddesdon Manor for the study of the Rothschild Family, History Man Workshops on the Victorians, Egyptians, Vikings and Anglo Saxons and an online workshop with a Mayan expert.

Implementation:

Pupils' knowledge and skills are built up and developed as they progress through the school. Their growing knowledge and skills about the past should help them to deepen their understanding of World History, the relationship between significant past events and the links to their lives today. History is taught within topics throughout the year to enable children to achieve depth in their learning. By the end of Year 5 the school hopes to produce children who have a chronological understanding of British History. Children are able to make comparisons and connections between different time periods and their own lives. This is interlinked with studies of World History. Planning is informed by and aligned with the National Curriculum. Consideration is also given to how we are enabling all children to make progress from their starting points. The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) follows their own curriculum, which aims for children to have an 'Understanding of the World; people and communities, the world and technology' by the end of the academic year.

In EYFS children achieve an understanding of: similarities and differences between things in the past and now; understand the past through characters, settings and events through books shared in class; talk about the lives of people around them and their roles in society.

In KS1 key themes are tackled: changes within living memory; significant events beyond living memory; lives of significant individuals in different periods of history; local history investigation

In KS2 learning is chronologically sequenced developing a knowledge of: significant dates, events, the legacies left from different periods of British history studied. Knowledge of influences from other civilisations that have helped shaped our world are positioned within this chronology as well as a study of contrasting civilisations. Local history knowledge is built on from KS1.

Impact:

Our History Curriculum is planned to demonstrate progressions across the EYFS and primary phases. The impact of our curriculum is measured against the objectives laid out in the National Curriculum and the History Subject lead will monitor the impact teaching is having on the children's learning by using the following approaches:

- Children will be taught a rich and varied curriculum that ensures progression through each topic and year group (Scaffolding of work where necessary to maximise each child's potential for learning and review of resources)
- Pupil discussions about their learning
- Engagement in enrichment opportunities such as trips; workshops (face-to-face and online); home learning (research projects); working in outdoor learning environments
- Tracking children's progress through each topic including book reviews and observations
- Keeping up to date with developments in the subject area