

Securing an Excellent History Curriculum for the Children of Botley C of E Primary School



The Intent of the History Curriculum

At Botley C of E Primary School the intent for the History curriculum is to inspire curiosity and develop a love of learning about the past so that children ask questions and learn to think critically. We stimulate the children's interest by exploring the people and events through history and how and why the world has changed over time. We develop their understanding of the importance of using evidence and thinking as a historian in order to investigate and enquire. The children use a range of sources to gain an insight into how people around the world used to live and how interpretations of this may differ. They use this knowledge to make connections, draw contrasts and analyse trends. The children have a clear understanding of duration and overlap in history. By learning about the past, the intention is that children will be interested in and responsible for shaping the future.

Our History curriculum has been designed to cover all of the knowledge and understanding as set out in the National Curriculum and beyond and seeks specifically to develop children's historical skills, vocabulary and literacy.

The Implementation of the History Curriculum

History will be an important aspect of the children's learning in every year group and is carefully sequenced and organised across the school to form a coherent, narrative. It is taught through an enquiry led approach so that children learn to ask questions, examine evidence and draw their own interpretations and conclusions from the weighing up of this evidence. In the Foundation Stage it is taught within appropriate aspects of the Early Years Curriculum. In Years 1-6, History is delivered through subject specific teaching, although meaningful links with other subjects are made in order to strengthen connections and understanding and provide a purpose for learning within an Integrated Units of Learning.

Concepts that strand through the History curriculum are identified and mapped in order that children are supported to make linkages and develop a deeper understanding of the subject by recalling previous units of learning.

Staff model explicitly the subject-specific vocabulary, understanding and skills relevant to the learning and enable children to develop and retain new knowledge and understanding. Assessment is ongoing throughout each unit to inform

teachers of progress and to support them with responsive teaching approaches that ensure that they appropriately meet the needs of all. Our children will act as historians and will be given a variety of experiences both in and out of the classroom as appropriate in order to create memorable learning opportunities and to experience success and enjoyment within the subject.

The Impact of the History Curriculum

The impact of our History curriculum is that children are confident to think, speak and write as historians using subject specific vocabulary. Children enjoy history and are able to recall their learning over time, making links and connections and drawing contrasts. Children understand key historical concepts and the methods of historical enquiry. They are equipped to ask perceptive questions, weigh evidence and consider different arguments. Children's books evidence that history is taught at an age appropriate level across the school and that there is a breadth of coverage. A high proportion of the children will be working at Age Related Expectations or beyond at key points and they are effectively prepared for the next stage of their educational journey within the subject of History.

