



History at The Duke of Bedford

Intent

At The Duke of Bedford Primary School our ambition is to teach History with the intent of inspiring an excitement in our children about History, beginning with their own past and local environment which sparks an interest that will last beyond their time at school with us. The National Curriculum is the base from which our History curriculum is developed. We want to give our children a knowledge of the history of the British Isles from the earliest times to the present day and how things change, or stay the same, over time and link these thoughts to their own present day understanding. To also look at the wider world, and as their knowledge grows, for them to begin to make connections between aspects of history. We aim to teach our children the skills to look at, use, interpret and make connections between a variety of historical sources and evidence and support them to be able to analyse and question their findings. We intend for our children to be confident in developing, discussing and arguing different points of view. We believe that these skills and knowledge are progressive and also transferable to other subjects both during their time at our school but also into their further education and life beyond.

Implementation

Our long term planning shows teachers which History units to cover in each of the terms, three units of History are covering within a yearly cycle. Our progression mapping document for History shows teachers what key knowledge to teach pupils in each lesson and allows them to see the knowledge that has been taught previously. Furthermore, our carefully planned progression and knowledge maps will allow the children to explore a variety of different time periods and topics ranging from the stone age up to World War II and in either the local area, Britain or anywhere across the globe.

The implementation of our History curriculum ensures a broad and balanced coverage of the National Curriculum requirements. We believe that chronology is very important, as teaching children when events happened and that they could occur at the same time as another event, allows them to develop a rich understanding of the past. We aim to equip our pupils with the ability to ask perceptive questions, think critically, collate evidence, debate arguments and develop their own perspective and judgement to better understand the world we live in today. In History lessons we aim to give our children every chance to think as historians, we will develop their skills of enquiry, investigation, analysis, evaluation and presentation whilst using some specific historical language to further enhance their knowledge. Our History curriculum encourages the children to take an inquisitive look at the world around them and consider what made the world the way it is today.

Impact

The impact of our History curriculum is monitored through both summative and formative assessment opportunities. All History lessons begin with 'knowledge checks' to ensure previously taught knowledge has been embedded into long term memory. Pupils will leave our school with a range of skills and progressive knowledge which will enable them to succeed in their secondary education and be active advocates for doing more to support and protect the changing world around them.