

Grindleton C.E. Primary School



In the same way, let your light shine before others that they may see your good deeds and glorify your father in heaven.'

Matthew 5 v16

History Policy

March 2020

Aims and Objectives

The aim of history teaching Grindleton C.E. Primary School is to stimulate the children's interest, curiosity and understanding about the past. At Grindleton Primary School we aim to provide creative high-quality History lessons to inspire and motivate our children to prepare them for their next stage of life. Through the curriculum pupils will gain a knowledge and understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world. We teach children a sense of chronology and through this develop a sense of identity and an awareness of the challenges of their time. Teaching should equip children to ask questions, think critically, weigh evidence and develop perspective and judgement. History teaching should help pupils to understand the complexity of pupil's lives, the process of change, the diversity of societies and the relationship between different groups.

Objectives

To foster in children an interest in the past and to develop an understanding that enables them to enjoy all that history has to offer.

To enable children to know about significant events in British history, to appreciate how things have changed over time and understand how Britain has influenced the wider world.

To develop a sense of chronology and understand how they fit into the framework of the past, present and future.

To know and understand how the British system of democratic government has developed and, in doing so, to contribute to a child's citizenship education.

To understand how Britain is part of a wider European culture and to study some aspects of European history.

To have some knowledge and understanding of historical development in the wider world, including ancient civilisations empires and past non European societies.

To help children understand society and their place within it, so that they develop a sense of their cultural heritage.

To develop in children the skills of enquiry, investigation, analysis, evaluation and presentation.

To ask historical questions and create their own structured accounts, including narratives and analysis.

To gain and use historical vocabulary.

To gain historical perspective by placing their growing knowledge into different contexts.

To understand historical concepts such as continuity and change, cause and consequences and use them to make connections.

Teaching and Learning

History teaching focuses on enabling children to think as historians. We place an emphasis on examining historical artefacts and primary sources to encourage curiosity, critical thinking and historical significance. In each Key Stage we encourage visitors to come into the school and talk about their experiences of events in the past as well as giving children the opportunity to visit sites of historical significance. We recognise and value the importance of stories in history teaching and we regard this as an important way of stimulating interest in the past. We focus on helping children understand that historical events can be interpreted in different ways and that they should always ask searching questions, such as "how do we know?", about information they are given.

We recognise the fact that in all classes there are children of widely-different abilities in history and we seek to provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child.

We achieve this by:

Setting common tasks, which are open-ended and can have a variety of responses; Setting tasks of increasing difficulty. Not all children complete all tasks.

Setting different tasks for differing abilities; Providing resources of different complexity depending on the ability of the child; using teaching assistants to support children.

Foundation Stage:

History is delivered to the Nursery and Reception pupils within the Knowledge and Understanding of the World Area of Learning through a cross curricular topic based approach at various points throughout the academic year.

Key Stage 1 and 2:

At Grindleton C.E. Primary School we continue the teaching of Foundation Subjects, including History, as a creative, cross curricular approach throughout the year. We base our teaching on the use of National Curriculum Programmes of Study and the development of historical skills.

History Curriculum Planning

We ensure that there are opportunities for children of all abilities to develop their skills and knowledge in each unit and we build planned progression into the scheme of work so that the children are increasingly challenged as they move up through the school.

The long-term plan maps the history topics studied in each term during each Key Stage, under each topic heading, some of which have a particular historical focus. We teach the knowledge, skills and understanding set out in the National Curriculum through the corresponding programme of study.

As part of the planning process teachers plan and include the following into the History taught at Grindleton C.E. Primary School:

- A sequence of lessons, which carefully plans for progression and depth, including:
 1. Historical enquiry
 2. Knowledge of people, events, situations and developments; chronology and characteristic features; historical terms.
 3. Communication
- Challenging questions for pupils to apply their learning in a philosophical/open manner, encouraging historical enquiry.
- Enrichment opportunities to enhance the learning experience.
- Display and celebrate the pupils' historical enquiry in their class, around school and in the wider community.
- Themed History Days to focus learning through key dates, commemorative events and anniversary dates which have significantly impacted British history and society.
- 'Sticky knowledge' important facts children should know in relation to the aspects of History they have been studying.

Revised: January 2020

Signed:

Chair of Governors