

At Whitehouse Primary School, history learning teaches children about the past and how it has impacted Britain and the wider world, whilst also providing opportunities to explore our local history through case studies.

Our history curriculum focuses on developing key historical skills and to build historical enquiry throughout. We support pupils to build a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain's past, whilst ensuring they are able to place this newly acquired knowledge and understanding in the greater context of world history. Through this, we actively encourage pupils to make comparisons between civilisations.



The teaching of History follows the National Curriculum and is integrated within our Learning Expeditions. Great emphasis is placed upon developing historical skills as well as understanding key concepts within History such as significance and interpretation, cause and effect, continuity and change.

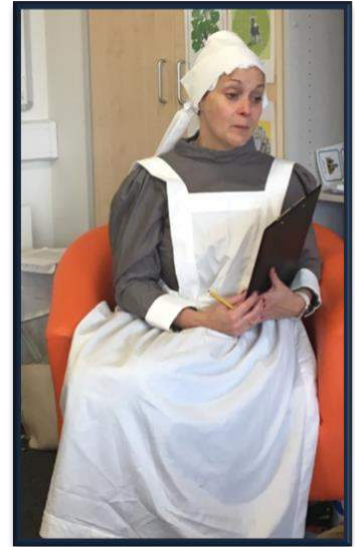
The history element of our school curriculum aims to inspire pupils' curiosity about the past and develop their own historical enquiry about Britain's past and that of the wider world. Pupils should be encouraged to develop a chronological framework and understanding of British history that will enable them to place the new knowledge they acquire in the wider historical narrative. This will also allow them to understand the process of change, to see how we arrived 'here' and help them to create links with the present.

As pupils progress, they will be enabled to ask perceptive questions, think critically, weigh evidence, sift arguments, and develop perspective and judgement. Through the teaching of History we endeavour to teach children 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.



Early Years Foundation Stage

At Whitehouse Primary School the children love learning about their surroundings right from the Early Years Foundation Stage. They begin by taking an interest in the lives of people who are familiar to them. They begin to remember and talk about significant events in their own experiences as well as recognising and describing special events. They begin to talk about the past and present events in their own lives and the lives of family members.



Key Stage 1

In Key Stage 1 skills pupils begin to develop an awareness of the past, using common words and phrases relating to the passing of time. They should know where the people and events they study fit within a chronological framework and identify similarities and differences between ways of life in different periods.

Children will begin to use a wide vocabulary of everyday historical terms. They should ask and answer questions, choosing and using parts of stories and other sources to show that they know and understand key features of events. They should understand some of the ways in which we find out about the past and identify ways in which it is represented.



Key Stage 2

Building on the historical skills from KS1, pupils should continue to develop a chronologically secure knowledge and understanding of British, local and world history, establishing clear narratives within and across the periods they study. They should note connections, contrasts and trends over time and develop the appropriate use of historical terms. They should regularly address and sometimes devise historically valid questions about change, cause, similarity and difference, and significance. They should construct informed responses that involve thoughtful selection and organisation of relevant historical information. They should understand how our knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources and begin to evaluate the validity of these sources.



Impact

As children progress through Whitehouse Primary School they develop a deep knowledge, understanding and appreciation for the past in its impact on their current lives. Children will know more, remember more and understand more about History.

Emphasis is placed on analytical thinking and questioning which helps pupils gain a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world and are curious to know more about the past. Through this study, pupils learn to ask perceptive questions, think critically, weigh evidence, sift arguments, and develop perspective and judgement. Regular school trips and events provide further relevant and contextual learning.

As historians, children learn lessons from history to influence the decisions they make in their lives in the future.



"We are not the makers of history. We are made by history."

Martin Luther King Jr.