



Overview of History at Shortlanesend School

At Shortlanesend School, our vision is to provide all children with the ability to, '**Dig deep to learn!**' We ensure that they are passionate about History, they make connections to the world of the past and the world in which they live now. We aim for our history learning to inspire children to actively explore different periods of time as well as cultures, in order to be confident to **compare and contrast** various civilisations and time periods.

We teach our children **the disciplinary concepts** required to be a good historian; how to research and gather information, how to question information for authenticity, perspective and reliability. 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.

We want all of our pupils to be curious about history, to foster an awe and to wonder about the past and to actively ask what the **cause** of events were, and what were their **effects**.

Our children's History journey starts in our Nursery and is incorporated within the Understanding the World aspect of the EYFS curriculum. Here, children continuously learn about people who are special to us and why we remember special times and events throughout the year.

The journey through the past continues in Reception, where once again History is incorporated within the 'Understanding the World' strand of learning. Over the year our children will talk about members of their immediate family and community through ongoing discussions and when presenting their 'All About Me' box that they bring to school in September containing photographs of people who are special to them. Through their Reception Year, they will look at key figures from the past and link these people to relevant and topical learning. Through these stories discussions will arise around common themes such as; bravery, difficult choices and kindness, and will talk about the children's experiences with these themes.

The National Curriculum for History aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Investigate, consider, reflect and review the events of the past.
- Communicate their historical knowledge in increasingly sophisticated ways.
- Inspire pupil's curiosity to know more about the past.
- Know and understand the history of these islands as a coherent, chronological narrative, from the earliest times to the present day; how people's lives have shaped this nation and how Britain has influenced and been influenced by the wider world.
- Know and understand significant aspects of the history of the wider world: the nature of ancient civilisations; the expansion and dissolution of empires; characteristic features of past non-European societies; achievements and follies of mankind.
- Gain and deploy a historically grounded understanding of abstract terms such as 'empire', 'civilisation', 'parliament' and 'peasantry'.



- Understand historical concepts such as continuity and change, cause and consequence, similarity, difference and significance, and use them to make connections, draw contrasts, analyse trends, frame historically valid questions and create their own structured accounts, including written narratives and analyses.
- Understand the methods of historical enquiry, including how evidence is used rigorously to make historical claims, and discern how and why contrasting arguments and interpretations of the past have been constructed.
- Gain historical perspective by placing their growing knowledge into different contexts, understanding the connections between local, regional, national and international history; between cultural, economic, military, political, religious and social history; and between short- and long-term timescales.

KS1 Key Objectives

Pupils should 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.

They should 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 different ways in which it is represented.

KS1 Pupils should be taught about:

- Changes within living memory. Where appropriate, these should be used to reveal aspects of change in national life.
- Events beyond living memory that are significant nationally or globally [for example, the Great Fire of London, the first aeroplane flight or events commemorated through festivals or anniversaries].
- The lives of significant individuals in the past who have contributed to national and international achievements. Some should be used to compare aspects of life in different periods [for example, Elizabeth I and Queen Victoria, Christopher Columbus and Neil Armstrong, William Caxton and Tim Berners-Lee, Pieter Bruegel the Elder and LS Lowry, Rosa Parks and Emily Davison, Mary Seacole and/or Florence Nightingale and Edith Cavell].
- Significant historical events, people and places in their own locality.



KS2 Key Objectives

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.

KS2 Pupils should be taught about:

- Changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age.
- The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain.
- Britain's settlement by Anglo-Saxons and Scots.
- The Viking and Anglo-Saxon struggle for the Kingdom of England to the time of Edward the Confessor.
- A local history study.
- A study of an aspect or theme in British history that extends pupils' chronological knowledge beyond 1066.
- The achievements of the earliest civilizations – an overview of where and when the first civilizations appeared and a depth study of one of the following: Ancient Sumer; The Indus Valley; Ancient Egypt; The Shang Dynasty of Ancient China.
- Ancient Greece – a study of Greek life and achievements and their influence on the western world.
- A non-European society that provides contrasts with British history – one study chosen from: early Islamic civilization, including a study of Baghdad c. AD 900; Mayan civilization c. AD 900; Benin (West Africa) c. AD 900-1300.

EYFS

History in EYFS is covered in the 'Understanding the World' area of learning within the EYFS Curriculum. Understanding the world involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community. The frequency and range of children's personal experiences increases their knowledge and sense of the world around them – from visiting parks, libraries and museums to meeting important members of society such as police officers, nurses and



firefighters. In addition, listening to a broad selection of stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems will foster their understanding of our culturally, socially, technologically and ecologically diverse world. As well as building important knowledge, this extends their familiarity with words that support understanding across domains.

E.L.G. – Understanding the World Past and Present

Children at the expected level of development will:

- Talk about the lives of the people around them and their roles in society;
- Know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class;
- Understand the past through settings, characters and events encountered in books read in class and storytelling.

We use **Tapestry**, our online learning journal, to record and track children's progress and achievements in History against the Early Learning Goals. Children who need additional help are identified and interventions put in to place when appropriate. Children's progress within history is then reported to parents through settling in meetings, sharing learning journals and regular communication.

In line with statutory requirements children are assessed against the Early Learning Goals for 'Understanding the World' at the end of the Reception year and this is reported to the LA and parents.

Skills Progression:

At Shortlanesend, we use the objectives from the National Curriculum to ensure full coverage and challenge for all. We carefully track the objectives to ensure that new learning builds on prior knowledge and consolidates understanding showing sound progression across the depth and breadth of the subject. The curriculum design for history ensures that each year group build on wider knowledge of local, national and global history. Within lessons and topics, we ensure sufficient time is given to recall prior learning so that children are able to see and develop links within their learning.

Planning:

When planning lessons, teachers ensure that National Curriculum objectives are covered, prior (and future) knowledge is considered, and challenge is built in to allow children to progress effectively with their historical learning. All year groups follow their own curriculum map and this ensures that all aspects of the History Curriculum are being covered and taught.

Key vocabulary is shared and used throughout lessons. Although there is no standardised guidance on what GDS looks like in history, we give opportunity to delve deeper in each lesson. All children have the opportunity to access this in every lesson. As well as history being taught discretely, it is also a fantastic hook within the teaching of many other subjects. History books (fiction and non-fiction) are a valuable resource used frequently in English lessons. History is also taught cross-curricular within Art, R.E., Guided Reading.



Our teachers can access a wide range of lesson ideas, planning and historical sources from the resource - Key Stage History. Teachers also use a range of planning and resources from other sites specialised in the teaching of history e.g. The Historical Association, BBC Primary History. Teaching and Learning

Expectations:

- History will be taught for an hour a week over a term and a half per year (even split with geography)
- History skills will be taught discreetly so that disciplinary skills can be taught, practiced and refined. History skills will be linked to the topic within a class when appropriate.
- Historical learning to be recorded in books in a variety of ways e.g. written accounts, pictures/annotated detailed drawings, photographs, use of primary and secondary sources. All children to have opportunities for extended pieces of writing at least once per half term. All learning in books to have a marking ladder which includes tiered learning outcomes, GDS opportunities, vocabulary.
- High expectations given to the quality of children's work/learning in line with other key subjects e.g. English, maths etc.
- Careers linked to history-based occupations to be shared and discussed in lessons. We encourage children to think about when in real-life would specific historical skills be used, with the aim of encouraging children to think that a career in history could be for them.
- Historical opportunities to be given in other subjects once a term e.g. English, guided reading, art, R.E. etc.
- Social media to be used to celebrate historical learning at Shortlanesend.

Working Walls/Displays:

All classes to display high quality, current historical learning. Displays to include children's work, key questions, key vocabulary with definitions and helpful information relevant to the historical learning being studied. Each class to have a specified area devoted to the teaching of history (or geography depending on which subject is currently being studied).

Monitoring/Assessment:

- Entry and Exit Points assessed – Children complete an Entry and Exit Quiz at the start and end of each history topic.
- Children are also assessed through pieces of independent writing and extended writing opportunities given.
- Teacher assessments – judgements made within lessons, analysis of independent learning, questioning and discussions.
- Moderation with school hub Summative Assessment - EYFS, end of KS1 and the end of KS2



Shortlanesend School

Smile - Learn - Excel

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- Pupil Conferencing
 - Learning Walk
 - Lesson Observations
 - Work Scrutiny
 - Displays