

*"Learning with our head, heart and hands so that we can experience life in all its fullness"*

## **History**

### **Intent, Implementation and Impact**



#### **Intent**

***We believe that "a people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots." Marcus Garvey***

At Matching Green CE Primary School our history curriculum provides children with the opportunity to explore and discover the world around them from their very own classroom. We endeavour for our children to gain a sound understanding of how historical events and significant figures have shaped Britain and the modern world. We believe that it is vital that children understand the connections and chronology that links events to the past and they can critically explore facts and opinions of past events in order to better understand their own place in history.

Our history curriculum will allow children to understand the process of change, to see how we have arrived 'here' and help them to make sense of the present and begin to establish what could be in the future. History is a unique subject as it allows children the ability to construct arguments and support them to become analytical citizens who can question with skill and confidence. We intend for our children to develop the skill of searching out fact or fiction, to ask questions about the integrity of sources and understand differences of opinions.

We intend to develop children's curiosity and a fascination of the world and its people, which aims to ignite a love of learning within a curriculum that is both stimulating and motivating. Children will have the opportunities for investigating places around the world as well as physical and human processes. Teaching will equip children with knowledge about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the Earth's key human and physical processes. We encourage and create an appreciation of how the world works and of the connections between concepts such as community, cultural diversity and sustainability.

The curriculum intends to improve children's historical vocabulary, develop their understanding of historical concepts and enquiry, gain historical perspective and to know and understand significant people and significant aspects of history and the wider world.

#### **Implementation**

To ensure coverage of the curriculum and continuity and progression of skills, history is taught using a scheme that underpins the National Curriculum but allows teachers to be creative in making adaptations tailored to the children's ideas for the topic and their learning needs. Our Progression of Skills document shows the skills that are taught within each year group and how these skills develop to ensure that objectives are securely met by the end of each key stage.

The key areas of the history curriculum:

- To learn about events beyond living memory
- To learn about changes within living memory
- To learn about the lives of significant individual
- To learn about British history

*"Learning with our head, heart and hands so that we can experience life in all its fullness"*

- To study aspects of British history beyond 1066
- To learn about the ancient civilizations
- To have a greater understanding of our local history

Our Class Curriculum Coverage document shows when each of the units are covered throughout our two year rolling cycle alongside National Curriculum objectives. We have also broken down larger objectives into smaller, more manageable objectives. Each unit is given a 'big question' which allows staff to frame narratives and focus the learning within the unit of work. Our overarching questions have multidimensional answers that require a breadth of knowledge to answer comprehensively. Teachers are able to break down their question into smaller 'small step' questions that reveal new insights lesson to lesson. Each unit fully scaffolds and supports essential and age appropriate sequence learning.

As we have mixed aged classes the topics have been selected to match up with the overall curriculum topic being taught that term, whilst also ensuring that there is a broad and equal coverage throughout each cycle and that children are able to progress and develop their artistic skills. Our learning is topic based, which allows their children to be immersed into the subject using a variety of classroom based, research, practical and cross-curricular opportunities. We provide opportunities to develop and consolidate skills and concepts introduced in the classroom and allow children to extend their understanding of the 'real' world.

Key skills are visited several times with increasing complexity in a spiral curriculum model; allowing children to revise and build on their previous learning.

Our history Vocabulary document outlines the key geographical language children will be exposed to throughout the unit of work.

Lessons at Matching Green CE Primary School endeavour to be creative and engaging and have elements of practical learning where appropriate. Differentiated support is given to each child throughout the lesson to ensure that lessons are enjoyed and accessed by all whilst also stretching the higher attaining children when required. Knowledge organisers for each unit support children in building a foundation of factual knowledge by encouraging recall of key facts and vocabulary.

History can be taught either as single lessons once a week or as a block of lessons over a short period of time (1-3 days typically) this allows children to become fully immersed in their topic, to refine, improve and properly evaluate their piece of work. It is the teacher's discretion to choose how history is taught over the term/half term and is dependent also on the overall class topic.

At certain times throughout the academic year the whole school come off topic and immerse themselves in a whole school theme e.g. 'Is Plastic Fantastic?', 'The Olympics' throughout these mini topics time is given for children to create projects.

### **Impact**

Children are able to demonstrate some of the skills that they have learnt through the double page spreads in their topic books. Teachers use a range of Assessment for Learning strategies to tailor their next steps in the teaching and learning cycle. Teachers assess children's attainment alongside the National Curriculum objectives using an agreed code.

*"Learning with our head, heart and hands so that we can experience life in all its fullness"*

The impact of the teaching and learning is monitored through both formative and summative assessment opportunities. Each lessons provides teachers with strategies to assess children against the learning objective and at the end of each unit there is a knowledge catcher and a quiz.

The expected impact of the history curriculum at Matching Green CE Primary School is that children will:

- Have a responsible and considerate understanding of the past
- Be inspired to be the best that they can be through the regular study of significant individuals who have themselves shaped the world we live in
- Develop their skills as critical thinkers
- Have an understanding of where society has come from
- Have a deep appreciation of different interpretations of the past and why this is
- Have a greater bank of historical technical vocabulary spoken and used by all learners