



History at Hyde Park Junior School



Intent

At Hyde Park Junior School, we believe that history is a vital part every child's education. It provides them with opportunities to learn about the past, which enhances the pupils' understanding of themselves, their family, their community and beyond. History enables children to see the influence the past has on their lives as well as where they live. Moreover, it allows children to develop a natural sense of wonder and curiosity about the wider world and their own heritages, which links strongly to our school values.

At Hyde Park, we work collaboratively with the Infant School and teach the history curriculum in chronological order from years 3 to 6, to reflect when events happened in time and to provide an easy way for children to recall knowledge from previous years.

We base the history curriculum, aligned with the National Curriculum, on core knowledge found within our knowledge organisers; embedding grounded historical knowledge alongside key skills such as evaluation, questioning and comparison. Furthermore, we use appropriate historical vocabulary developed throughout the school, allowing children to use these abstract terms to communicate their ideas in a sophisticated and deepening manner. Children will develop their understanding of history with effective teaching and carefully throughout sequences of lessons and experiences. Where possible, we provide experiential learning, which will engage the children and secure those key facts; this could include exciting visits to our local area or dramatizing the trials and tribulations of events throughout history. Understanding of the core skills of history (continuity, change, cause and consequence), will be developed by providing an accessible and engaging curriculum, which will enable children to reach their full potential as historians.



Implementation

At Hyde Park Junior School, we teach a non-procedural, knowledge-based history curriculum, which provides children key opportunities to develop mastery in the key practises as historians. This is supported through the studying of significant aspects of history of the United Kingdom and the wider world.

The history curriculum is taught in chronological order from Years 3 to 6. This allows children to immerse themselves in a period of history. We also use every opportunity to also teach history alongside other curriculum areas, such as writing, reading and personal, social, citizenship and health education. Monitoring and evaluation of the quality of the planning, teaching and learning will be conducted by the subject leader alongside members of the SLT and will take various forms, such as: book looks, scrutiny of planning, learning walks and pupil voice questionnaires, with the main focus being that children will acquire more knowledge and retain more knowledge.

The children will have the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge of periods of time within history through the creation of their own structured accounts, including written narratives and analyses. The children will be given constructive feedback and next steps. The evidence of their work is collected within their history books.



Impact

Assessment of history at both KS1 and KS2 will be based on teachers' judgments and all recording should be simple and straightforward. Teachers assess children's work in history by making assessments as they observe them working during lessons throughout a sequence of lessons that are planned collaboratively across both the Infant and Junior schools. As well as this, the development of their historical skills will be evaluated against the national curriculum indicators and ability to understand a variety of historical concepts as they develop an identity as a 'historian'.



Progress

Our curriculum allows for children to review previous learning and add to their knowledge through a variety of topics through coherently sequenced lessons, learning experiences and varied activities/tasks. The collaborative working between the Infant and Junior schools enables a clear progression of vocabulary, skills and knowledge for our children. Children's progression in History will be monitored closely through planning, book scrutiny, lesson operations, learning walks and discussions with pupils.



Cross Curricular Links



Local Link

Cross-curricular work offers a creative way to develop children's knowledge, skills and understanding while motivating them to learn through stimulating, interconnected topics. In history we plan for investigations that engage children's imagination, while also giving teachers opportunities to encourage active enquiry, taking the initiative, and discussion and debate by children. As history is above all the study of the human condition, it provides us with endless opportunities for fostering children's personal development.

At Hyde Park Junior school we believe that it is important, wherever possible to link to our locality and community. Our school is located in a very history rich part of the United Kingdom and we incorporate those rich links within the experiences our children have. Local visits or visitors to the school, with specific expertise, are also used where possible to engage the children in the learning there are receiving.

