

Hollinhey Primary School



History Policy

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HOLLINHEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

History Policy

At Hollinhey, we aim to foster pupils' curiosity about the past as they learn about the lives of people and communities in the past, in both Britain and the wider world.

We want children to understand how history, relationships, cultures, religions and diverse societies from the past have shaped the present. In EFYS and Year 1 this is based upon the pupils' living experience and the experiences of those around them, leading to Y2 when they look at events and significant people who have shaped the world around them. In KS2, pupils follow a chronological curriculum of British History including aspects of local study, alongside significant civilisations throughout the world. In year 6 this progression of knowledge, understanding and historical concepts leads to a study with independent learning opportunities on a theme which extends beyond 1066.

Aims

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

- know and understand the history of these islands as a coherent, chronological narrative, from the earliest times to the present day
- know and understand significant aspects of the history of the wider world
- 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
- gain historical perspective by placing their growing knowledge into different contexts.

Intent:

In line with our values at Hollinhey, our History curriculum allows all children to operate as successful historians through being taught a wide range of essential enquiry skills, concepts and key knowledge.

Honesty – We aspire to encourage resilience, perseverance and an acceptance that mistakes are an important part of learning. We look at different sources to further develop the children's understanding of local, national and world history.

Effort – We celebrate effort as much as attainment, promoting the importance of hard work to build success and the development of a growth mindset.

Achievement – We intend to provide children with a secure grasp of core historical knowledge and skills, along with the curiosity to continue to question and learn about the world as they move forward into their lives.

Respect – We aim to inspire a lifelong love of learning about the history of the world and its people, and to challenge any misconceptions or stereotypes which they may encounter.

Tolerance – Through learning about significant events in local and national history, and different civilisations around the world, pupils will develop understanding of, and empathy towards, people from different places and cultures. We will teach History in an inclusive manner, with high aspirations for all our learners.

Implementation:

Knowledge and skills of History are prioritised at Hollinhey so that children are able to achieve depth in their learning and these are taught through History topics. Teachers have identified the key historical knowledge and skills of each topic and consideration has been given to ensure progression across topics throughout each year group across the school. By the end of year 6, children will have a chronological understanding of British history. They are able to draw comparisons and make connections between different time periods and their own lives. Interlinked with this are studies of world history, such as the ancient civilisations of Egypt, Rome and Mesoamerica.

At Hollinhey we place a focus on the substantive knowledge of:

- Historical Interpretation
- Historical Enquiry
- Chronological Understanding
- Knowledge and Understanding of Events, People and Changes in the past
- Historical Language and Presentation of Ideas

We aim to develop historical skills such as asking perceptive questions, analysing evidence from primary and secondary sources, thinking critically and creating arguments for and against and debating ideas, investigating change and continuity and identifying historical significance. Our curriculum delivery is designed to promote a sense of chronology so that children develop a sense of history and when key events took place.

Hollinhey have decided upon three substantive concepts, which will be the 'golden thread of knowledge and understanding' that runs through most of the periods of study.

These are **Settlements**, **Transport and Travel** and **Religion and Power**.

In order for children to know more and remember more in each area of history studied, there is a structure to the lesson sequence whereby prior learning is always considered and opportunities for revision of facts and historical understanding are built into lessons. However, this is not to say that this structure should be followed rigidly: it allows for this revision to become part of good practice and ultimately helps build a depth to children's historical understanding. Through revisiting and consolidating skills, our lesson sequences help children build on prior knowledge alongside introducing new skills and challenge. We have suggested a specific series of lessons for each key stage, which will offer structure and narrative but are by no means to be used exclusively, rather to support planning. The revision and introduction of key vocabulary is built into each lesson.

Cross curricular outcomes in history are specifically planned for, with strong links between the history curriculum and literacy enabling further contextual learning. The local area is also fully utilised to achieve the desired outcomes, with extensive opportunities for learning outside the classroom embedded in practice.

Planning is informed by and aligned with the national curriculum. Consideration is given to how greater depth will be taught, learnt and demonstrated, as well as how learners will be supported in line with the school's commitment to inclusion.

Outcomes of work are regularly monitored to ensure that they reflect a sound understanding of the key identified knowledge. Within our knowledge-rich approach, there is a strong emphasis on people and the community of our local area.

At the end of each topic, key knowledge is reviewed by the children, checked by the teacher and consolidated as necessary.

Foundation Stage

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) follows the 'Development Matters in the EYFS' guidance which aims for all children in reception to have an 'Understanding of the World; people and communities, the world and technology' by the end of the academic year. History in the Foundation Stage is an integral part of the topic work covered during the year. Please see the EYFS policy and the progression document.

Impact:

As a result of this implementation, we believe that children develop a deep knowledge, understanding and appreciation of their local area and its place within the wider historical context. Children develop analytical thinking and questioning which helps them gain a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world. Through this study, pupils learn to ask perceptive questions, think critically, weigh evidence, sift arguments, and develop perspective and judgement.

Pupil voice is used to further develop the History curriculum, through questioning of pupil's views and attitudes to History to support the children's enjoyment of science and to motivate learners.

Children at Hollinhey enjoy learning about the history of their local area and its context within the wider world and this results in motivated and curious learners with sound historical understanding.

Adaptation and SEN

We teach History to all children, whatever their ability. We do this by setting suitable learning challenges and responding to each child's different needs. In order to ensure that children with special educational needs achieve to the best of their ability, it may be necessary to adapt the delivery of the History curriculum for some pupils. This may be through providing extra support or adapting learning resources and equipment as necessary.

Extra Opportunities

Children are offered a wide range of extra-curricular activities, visits, trips and visitors to complement and broaden the curriculum. These are purposeful and link with the knowledge being taught in class

Equal Opportunities (see also Equal Opportunities Policy)

Hollinhey Primary School will ensure that all children are provided with the same learning opportunities regardless of social class, gender, culture, race, disability or learning difficulties. As a result, we hope to enable all children to develop positive attitudes towards others. All pupils have equal access to History and all staff members follow the equal opportunities policy. Resources for SEN children and More Able pupils will be made available to support and challenge appropriately.

Roles and Responsibilities

The subject leader is expected to:

- Ensure that the subject is regularly discussed, reviewed and monitored within the school
- Keep resources up-to-date and relevant, particularly in preparation for each unit of work.
- Promote History good practice through the school.
- Set a good example of History practice.
- Support long term planning for the whole school.
- Monitor and evaluate History through the school.
- Provide INSET.
- Liaise with other primary and secondary schools.
- Promote History's high profile in the school.

When the policy will be reviewed

October 2025

Year Group	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Reception		Birthdays Children know that time passes, and we get older. They can talk about birthdays and significant events within the year		Traditional Tales Understand the past through settings, characters and events encountered in books read in class and storytelling.		On the Beach Know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class
Year 1		The Great Fire of London Events beyond living memory that are significant nationally or globally Significant Figures: Samuel Pepys & Christopher Wren	Toys and Games Changes within living memory.			Local History: Sutton & Famous people- Widdowson, Brindley, Widdowson & Widdowson Significant historical events, people and places in their own locality
Year 2		Remembrance Significant historical events, people and places in their own locality	Florence Nightingale Mary Seacole The lives of significant individuals in the past who have contributed to national and international achievements	Christopher Columbus, Nell Armstrong, Tim Peake The lives of significant individuals in the past who have contributed to national and international achievements to compare aspects of life in different periods. The 1969 Moon Landing: Events beyond living memory that are significant nationally or globally		
Year 3	Stone Age to Iron Age Changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age			Ancient Egypt The achievements of the earliest civilizations – Ancient Egypt		
Year 4			Ancient Greeks A study of Greek life and achievements and their influence on the western world			Roman Britain The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain
Year 5			Anglo Saxons Britain's settlement by Anglo-Saxons and Scots	Vikings The Viking and Anglo-Saxon struggle for the Kingdom of England to the time of Edward the Confessor	Macclesfield & The Silk Industry A study of an aspect of history or a site dating from a period beyond 1066 that is significant in the locality	
Year 6		Crime & Punishment A study of an aspect of British history that extends pupils' chronological knowledge beyond 1066	Mayan Civilisation A non-European society that provides contrasts with British history – Mayan civilization c. A.D 900			

	EYFS	KS1	LKS2	UKS2
Historical Interpretations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin to make sense of their own life-story and family's history. Comment on images of familiar situations in the past. Compare and contrast characters from stories, including figures from the past. 	KS1 History National Curriculum Children should understand some of the ways in which we find out about the past and identify different ways in which it is represented. Children can: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> start to compare two versions of a past event; observe and use pictures, photographs and artefacts to find out about the past; start to use stories or accounts to distinguish between fact and fiction; explain that there are different types of evidence and sources that can be used to help represent the past. 	KS2 History National Curriculum Children should understand how our knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources. Children can: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> look at more than two versions of the same event or story in history and identify differences; investigate different accounts of historical events and be able to explain some of the reasons why the accounts may be different. 	KS2 History National Curriculum Children should understand how our knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources. Children can: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> find and analyse a wide range of evidence about the past; use a range of evidence to offer some clear reasons for different interpretations of events, linking this to factual understanding about the past; consider different ways of checking the accuracy of interpretations of the past; start to understand the difference between primary and secondary evidence and the impact of this on reliability; show an awareness of the concept of propaganda; know that people in the past represent events or ideas in a way that may be to persuade others; begin to evaluate the usefulness of different sources.
Historical Enquiry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk about the lives of 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. 	KS1 History National Curriculum Children should ask and answer questions, using other sources to show that they know and understand key features of events. Children can: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> observe or handle evidence to ask simple questions about the past; observe or handle evidence to find answers to simple questions about the past on the basis of simple observations; choose and select evidence and say how it can be used to find out about the past. 	KS2 History National Curriculum Pupils should regularly address and sometimes devise historically valid questions about change, cause, similarity and difference, and significance. Children should construct informed responses that involve thoughtful selection and organisation of relevant historical information. Children can: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> use a range of primary and secondary sources to find out about the past; construct informed responses about one aspect of life or a key event in the past through careful selection and organisation of relevant historical information; gather more detail from sources such as maps to build up a clearer picture of the past; regularly address and sometimes devise own questions to find answers about the past; begin to undertake their own research. 	KS2 History National Curriculum Pupils should regularly address and sometimes devise historically valid questions about change, cause, similarity and difference, and significance. Children should construct informed responses that involve thoughtful selection and organisation of relevant historical information. Children can: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> recognise when they are using primary and secondary sources of information to investigate the past; use a wide range of different evidence to collect evidence about the past, such as ceramics, pictures, documents, printed sources, posters, online material, pictures, photographs, artefacts, historic statues, figures, sculptures, historic sites; select relevant sections of information to address historically valid questions and construct detailed, informed responses; investigate their own lines of enquiry by posing historically valid questions to answer.

Chronological Understanding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children know that time passes, and we get older. 	KS1 History National Curriculum 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. Children can: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> sequence artefacts and events that are close together in time; order dates from earliest to latest on simple timelines; sequence pictures from different periods; describe memories and changes that have happened in their own lives; use words and phrases such as: old, new, earliest, latest, past, present, future, century, new, newest, old, oldest, modern, before, after to show the passing of time. 	KS2 History National Curriculum 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. Children can: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> sequence several events, artefacts or historical figures on a timeline using dates, including those that are sometimes further apart, and terms related to the unit being studied and passing of time; understand that a timeline can be divided into BC (Before Christ) and AD (Anno Domini). 	KS2 History National Curriculum 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. Children can: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> order an increasing number of significant events, movements and dates on a timeline using dates accurately; accurately use dates and terms to describe historical events; understand and describe in some detail the main changes to an aspect in a period in history; understand how some historical events/periods occurred concurrently in different locations, e.g. Indus Valley and Ancient Egypt.
Knowledge and Understanding of Events, People and Changes in the Past	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the past through settings, characters and events encountered in books read in class and storytelling. 	KS1 History National Curriculum Pupils should identify similarities and differences between ways of life in different periods. Children should choose and use parts of stories and other sources to show that they know and understand key features of events. Children can: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> recognise some similarities and differences between the past and the present; identify similarities and differences between ways of life in different periods; know and recount episodes from stories and significant events in history; understand that there are reasons why people in the past acted as they did; describe significant individuals from the past. 	KS2 History National Curriculum Children should note connections, contrasts and trends over time. Children can: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> note key changes over a period of time and be able to give reasons for those changes; find out about the everyday lives of people in time studied compared with our life today; explain how people and events in the past have influenced life today; identify key features, aspects and events of the time studied; describe connections and contrasts between aspects of history, people, events and artefacts studied. 	KS2 History National Curriculum Pupils should note connections, contrasts and trends over time. Children can: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> identify and note connections, contrasts and trends over time in the everyday lives of people; use appropriate historical terms such as culture, religious, social, economic and political when describing the past; examine causes and results of great events and the impact these had on people; describe the key features of the past, including attitudes, beliefs and the everyday lives of men, women and children.
Historical Language and presentation of ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children are beginning to use language related to time in conversation and written form. 	KS1 History National Curriculum Pupils should use a wide vocabulary of everyday historical terms. Children can: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> show an understanding of historical terms, such as monarch, parliament, government, war, remembrance; talk, write and draw about things from the past; use historical vocabulary to retell simple stories about the past; use drama/role play to communicate their knowledge about the past. 	KS2 History National Curriculum Pupils should develop the appropriate use of historical terms. Children can: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> use and understand appropriate historical vocabulary to communicate information such as ruled, reigned, empire, invasion, conquer, kingdoms; present, communicate and propose ideas about the past using models, drama role play and different genres of writing including letters, recounts, poems, adverts, diaries, posters and guides; propose to present ideas based on their own research about a studied period. 	KS2 History National Curriculum Pupils should develop the appropriate use of historical terms. Children can: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> know and show a good understanding of historical vocabulary including abstract terms such as democracy, revolution, social, political, economic, cultural, religious; present, communicate and propose ideas about the past using detailed discussions and debates and different genres of writing such as myths, instructions, accounts, diaries, letters, information/travel guides, posters, news reports; propose and present a self-directed project or research about the studied period.