



**North Newton
Community Primary School**
"Together We Achieve"

Subject - History

Curriculum Intent

At North Newton, we use a cycle of 'Knowledge-rich' projects from Cornerstones Curriculum Maestro to ensure we cover a range of time periods and events, both locally and worldwide, from EYFS to year 6. The cycles are set up to ensure changes in mixed-age classes do not result in children revisiting a time period twice - this process is completed and reviewed alongside Cornerstones.

We offer a high-quality history education that will help pupils gain a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world. We believe that History should inspire pupils' curiosity to know more about the past. Teaching equips pupils to ask perceptive questions, think critically, weigh evidence, sift arguments, and develop perspective and judgement. We believe that History helps pupils to understand the complexity of people's lives, the process of change, the diversity of societies and relationships between different groups. It also helps children gain a sense of their own identity within a social, political, cultural and economic background. Consequently, we feel it is important for the subject to be taught discretely as well as incorporated within other curriculum subjects such as English, Art and DT.

We also take opportunities to explore History within the context of the local area to enable children to develop a deep understanding of the rich history of their locality e.g. World War 1 and 2 family studies, The History of Carnival, fireworks, Guy Fawks and Bridgwater and The Viking/Saxon battles around Athelney.

Our project choices are informed by the national curriculum and carefully planned and structured to ensure that current learning is linked to previous learning and that the school's approaches are informed by current pedagogy. We aim to ensure that all pupils:

- Gain a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world which helps to stimulate pupils' curiosity to know more about the past;
- Are encouraged to ask perceptive questions, think critically, weigh evidence, sift arguments, and develop perspective and judgement;
- Begin 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.

Curriculum Implementation

Our History curriculum aims to excite the children and allow them to develop their own skills as historians. We encourage regular references to timelines and how topics fit together as well as a hands-on approach involving artefacts and outreach programmes where appropriate

to bring history alive to our young learners. As part of a project lead programme, opportunities for cross curricular links are maximised to ensure the children have many occasions outside of History lessons to apply their knowledge and understanding.

History at North Newton:

- Is taught throughout the year, so that children achieve depth in their learning. The key knowledge and skills that children acquire and develop throughout each project have been mapped to ensure progression between year groups throughout the school.
- Whilst led via Maestro projects and planning, is not limited to this - teachers have access to further guidance from national agencies and resources, including the History Association, of which the school is a member - having won a historical association literacy award in 2022.
- Begins with a 'wow' visit or in-school experience to engage the children - coupled with this, teachers refer to classroom timelines to develop children's understanding of chronology. Each project is introduced with reference to the chronology of previous projects (including those from previous years). By the end of year 6, children will have a chronological understanding of British history from the Stone Age to the present day. They are also 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 Greece and the Egyptians.
- Reinforces a history narrative through school. In KS1, the children use consistent scales to reinforce the difference between now, within living memory and then beyond it. Every time a new 'project' is introduced, it is either added to or a new timeline created to build up understanding over time. In KS2, the narrative is used to enable understanding to develop over time and the scale is broken into BC and AD to reinforce that the chronological scale expands beyond what can be shown.
- Uses knowledge organisers alongside homework tasks to give children an opportunity to recap and develop on classroom learning. We encourage children to interpret the homework and present their knowledge in as creative a way as possible - allowing them to develop and utilise ICT, ART, DT and Literacy skills.
- Uses artefacts throughout the topic wherever possible. This encourages the children to become history detectives by getting them to think about what the artefact is for, where it is from and how old it is. Artefacts help pupils question and understand the past and encourages the use of historical language.
- Uses visits/experiences to demonstrate or re-enact aspects or periods in history. These bring the history alive to the children and provides them with a more visual view of the topic they are covering.
- Uses ICT where appropriate to support learning and make the curriculum accessible for everyone.

Curriculum Impact

Outcomes in topic and literacy books evidence a broad and balanced history curriculum and demonstrate the children's acquisition of identified key knowledge. An emphasis is placed on analytical thinking and questioning, and children demonstrate a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world, in addition to being curious to know more about the past. Through this study pupils ask perceptive questions, think critically, weigh evidence, sift arguments, and develop perspective and judgement.

North Newton are very proud that feedback from Secondary School's their pupils move to, is positive regarding children's historical knowledge and understanding.