



# HISTORY Curriculum Statement

## INTENT

Ready to achieve

Respectful

Safe

Happy and Healthy

Inspired to be the best we can be

Wodensfield  
Curriculum

INTENT

At Wodensfield Primary School, we aim for a high-quality history curriculum which inspires in pupils a curiosity and fascination to find out more about Britain's past and that of the wider world. Our history curriculum has been designed to be both knowledge-rich and sequenced carefully to ensure that all children will be able to access it and to foster a love and enjoyment of the subject. Knowledge means not only *substantive knowledge* of historical events, dates and people in the past, but also knowledge of *substantive concepts* in history (such as 'empire,' 'monarchy' and 'agriculture'), and *disciplinary historical concepts* (such as evidence, causation, consequences, significance and interpretation).

Children will understand about ancient civilisations and empires, changes in living memory and beyond living memory, learn about the lives of significant people from the past and significant events in the past. 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.

The history curriculum allows children to develop a chronologically secure knowledge and understanding of local, British and world history, building on their learning in EYFS, where children develop a sense of past and present, through stories and their own experiences.

The *substantive knowledge* taught in the curriculum has been carefully chosen and sequenced to ensure that children can establish and create links between and across different periods studied, thus building on and developing prior knowledge to create a wholistic understanding of the History of Britain (including a local history focus) and the wider world.

In ensuring high standards of teaching and learning in history, we implement a curriculum that is progressive throughout the whole school. Each History Unit of Work will be overarched with a BIG Question. Each lesson within that unit of work shall require children to answer a Mini-BIG Question, which will allow their knowledge and understanding to develop. Each lesson will focus on a disciplinary concept e.g. continuity and change, significance, interpretation, to ensure that the children can develop skills in addition to their substantive knowledge. There are detailed medium term plans for all units, which are subject to continuous refinement by individual teachers. Teachers also use IWB resources to stimulate and support the children's learning and enjoyment of History. Teachers are responsible for adapting learning to best suit the children they teach. Teachers will assess children through quick quizzes and through oral and written feedback when answering the BIG Question at the end of the unit studied.

In EYFS, children will focus on chronology and understanding of vocabulary of the past through their own experiences. They will also begin to develop understanding of some substantive concepts for example 'monarchy' 'agriculture,' and 'settlement' through stories and their own experiences.

History units are taught termly in KS1, and in KS2 two units are taught in each year group, focusing on knowledge and skills as stated in the National Curriculum. By the end of Year 6, children will have a chronological understanding of British history from the Stone Age to the Normans. In addition, they will study Britain during 1600s, the reign of Queen Victoria and WW2; they will also carry out a Local Study of Wednesfield from 600s to the present day. Interlinked with British History are studies of world history, including the ancient civilisations of the Egyptians, Greeks and the Mayans. The children will also learn about the lives of significant individuals throughout history, including Florence Nightingale, Mary Seacole and Mary Anning. Key substantive concepts will be interlinked throughout the EYFS, KS1 and KS2 Curriculum to ensure children develop an understanding of these historical concepts and are able to experience them in different contexts. Trips and visiting experts will also enhance the history curriculum.

The impact of our curriculum will be that the pupils make significant progress at all key stages. Acquiring the skills and knowledge identified for each topic within the subject area. Key skills and knowledge will be delivered to ensure clear progression from year to year, with the pupils using existing skills and acquiring new ones as they move on through school. This will result in each pupil being equipped with a breadth of knowledge and skills to successfully support their educational journey; developing rounded individuals who have empathy and respect for themselves and others. Children will have an understanding of how the past has shaped the present and can change the future, thus supporting our school focus to be ready, respectful and safe. Robust assessment for learning, and clear identification of pupils' particular talents, interest and curiosity will be nurtured to ensure personal motivations and ambitions are encouraged and fostered.