

## **History Policy – St Anne’s RC Primary School**

### **Introduction**

At St Anne’s we do our very best to ensure our children have an exciting curriculum that will equip them with lifelong skills. Our History curriculum is centred on a ‘research’ based approach. We actively encourage our children to undertake enquiries and always ask the question ‘Why?’ Children are encouraged through their study of History to appreciate their own identity and heritage.

### **Aims**

Through History teaching at St Anne’s we aim to promote positive attitudes and enthusiasm for History. Children are encouraged to:

Be interested in and observant about the historical and social aspects of their local environment, British and World history.

Develop chronological awareness when studying significant events and people.

Compare and contrast the past with the present.

Ask questions, provide explanations based on evidence, put forward opinions and develop their own point of view.

Collect and record evidence from a variety of sources.

Respect the values and cultures of people represented in the past and present.

Develop skills of enquiry, investigation, analysis, evaluation and presentation.

Work both individually and cooperatively, listening to and valuing the opinions of others.

### **Teaching Objectives**

#### **KS1**

Children will be taught about the past, using common words and phrases relating to the passing of time. They will learn where the people and events they study fit within a chronological framework and identify similarities and differences between ways of life in different periods. They will be taught a wide vocabulary of everyday historical terms. Children will ask and answer questions, choosing and using parts of stories and other sources to show that they know and understand key features of events. They will study some of the ways in which we find out about the past and identify different ways in which it is represented.

#### **KS2**

Children will 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. They will note connections, contrasts and trends over time and develop the appropriate use of historical terms. They will regularly address and sometimes devise historically valid questions about change, cause, similarity and difference, and significance. Children will construct informed responses that involve thoughtful selection and

organisation of relevant historical information. They will understand how our knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources.

### **Curriculum Organisation**

History at St Anne's Catholic Primary School is taught by all class teachers through our creative curriculum. Our curriculum working party have selected a range of topics and themes linked to our Creative Curriculum which ensure that each aspect of History is thoroughly covered by each year group across the School. Full details of each topic covered are recorded in long term plan/yearly overview for each year group. History in the Early Years Foundation Stage is implemented through the 'Understanding the World' area of learning and is delivered through relevant topics.

### **Continuity and Progression**

As children move through each year group they will build on the skills, knowledge and understanding of History gained through each topic they study. Class teachers are aware of the progression of skills for their year group as well as the previous and next year group and plan thoroughly for each topic and for the ability levels of all children. Planning to ensure appropriate engagement for all children.

### **Time Allocation**

History is taught within the wider 'Topic' area of the school curriculum and is allocated a two week block each term to provide the children with the opportunity to become immersed in the study of the topic. There is also time factored into the timetable for extra coverage if required, usually at the end of a term/half term.

### **Teaching and Learning Strategies**

Teaching approaches relate to the historical content and expected outcomes of the learning in any given topic. Teaching includes the employment of a range of 'Learning to Learn' strategies, whole class teaching, group work, role play and independent research through children's creative 'Learning Logs'. Teachers are able to utilise a variety of artefacts, written sources and ICT resources to support their teaching of History.

Appropriate educational visits/visitors are organised to a range of relevant historical sites in the local area including museums.

### **Resources**

A variety of artefacts are available to support the children's learning. Children are encouraged to become independent researchers and make use of ICT facilities, as well as a range of written sources such as books and documents.

### **Contribution to Other Areas of the Curriculum**

History has links across the curriculum.

English: History provides children with the opportunity to develop and apply their writing skills across a range of genres. Reading, writing, speaking and listening skills are essential to undertaking historical enquiry. Children will have the opportunity to communicate in a range of ways and are encouraged to develop their ability to form appropriate questions for example when interviewing older people about life in the past.

Mathematics: children are encouraged to apply mathematical skills of analysis, developing an understanding of time and chronology. Children are able to develop their mathematical understanding through the use of timelines, data and charts.

ICT: Children at St Anne's are able to immerse themselves in any given era of history through the use of 'green screen' animation. Research skills are developed through the use access to various timelines.

Geography: There are close links between the two subjects. An investigation of how an aspect of the local area has changed over a long period or how the locality was affected by a significant national or local event, links both History and Geography. As children study British, European and World History they will use and develop their mapping skills and discover the location of places.

### **Health and Safety**

Appropriate checks and risk assessments are carried out routinely for any aspect of teaching and learning that takes place outside classroom based lessons.

### **Equal Opportunities and Inclusion**

Children of all abilities benefit from the study of History. History lessons are differentiated to meet the needs of all children including those children with additional educational needs.

### **Community Links**

The teaching of History at St Anne's promotes the study and understanding of local sites which have contributed to the History of the local area.

St Anne's routinely seeks to draw on the knowledge of a number of members of the local community to enrich the children's learning. Local people are willing to be interviewed by the children, supporting the development of the interviewing and questioning skills.

### **Assessment, Recording and Reporting**

Foundation subjects are assessed using ongoing teacher assessment. Due to the removal of levels children will be assessed against two criteria: Working Towards ARE and Working At ARE. Teachers will judge which best fits each child's performance. This information will be passed on to the receiving teacher at the end of the school year. In the Early Years Foundation Stage, children will be assessed in line with 'Early Years Outcomes' as they progress through the stage and as part of the Early Years profile at the end of Foundation Stage.

See Assessment policy for more information.

### **Review and Monitoring**

The History subject leader is responsible for reviewing short, medium and long term planning across all year groups. The subject leader will carry out a book scrutiny at the end of each term and hold pupil conferences. The subject leader will devise an action plan to support the development of history teaching at the end of each school year.

### **Professional Development**

Any member of staff wishing to develop their subject knowledge can request additional professional development through various courses at the discretion of the Senior Management.

### **Policy Review**

This policy will be reviewed annually by the subject leader and the Deputy Headteacher.