



Curriculum Overview for History ~ October 2021

Intent

At Birkwood Primary school, we understand the value of history within the curriculum and the importance of making links between past and present day events. We are committed to providing a rich curriculum that develops children's cultural capital by broadening their knowledge of both local, national and world history. History is effectively planned and sequenced to maximise children's knowledge and skills to embed in their long term memory. Birkwood teaches children powerful, culturally rich knowledge in a way that ensures they are most likely to remember and apply these skills to the circumstances of their lives. The history curriculum is successfully adapted to meet the needs of all children by ensuring practical, immersive and hands on teaching that promotes independence and fluency.

Implementation

We aim that all pupils make progress in history by:

- Ensuring teachers have a thorough knowledge of the subject and are supported by leaders to promote good practice
- Historical time lines are presented clearly and are age appropriate in every classroom
- Links are made where possible across curriculum areas in order to develop a deeper understanding
- Providing resources and artefacts that bring their learning to life
- Trips to historical places are carefully planned to support and contextualise topic learning; special visitors deepen children's understanding
- Teachers systematically assess children's understanding by use of questioning and direct feedback. Teachers adapt their sequence of teaching to meet children's individual needs
- Providing a curriculum that builds on prior learning and knowledge. Children are taught the chronological importance
- Children are explicitly taught key historical vocabulary that builds on prior learning.
- Aspirational historical vocabulary is displayed within classrooms and shared areas throughout the school. Children are encouraged to read, use and embed this language within their writing.
- History displays presented throughout the school showcase children's learning and promote historical knowledge
- Book monitoring ensures whole school consistency and exemplifies meaningful learning.

Impact

Children at Birkwood are enthusiastic to learn about history from an early age. Teaching is exciting and children have a love for learning and for extending their historical knowledge and vocabulary. Speaking and listening skills are developed through historical enquiry. Children are confident to discuss key events and facts with their peers and class.

Children can apply their improved cultural literacy skills to all areas of the wider curriculum and future learning.

Summary Outcomes

At Birkwood, we are determined that every pupil will make good progress in developing their historical knowledge, regardless of their background, needs and abilities. We aim to build life skills that enable our children to extend their cultural capital and therefore extend their understanding of their local heritage and knowledge of historical events throughout time.

We anticipate all children will leave Key Stage two with a greater understanding of the wider world and their place within this.

Areas for Action

To ensure overall coverage of the curriculum within all key stages and EYFS Understanding of the World.

Alice Lavender & Lucy Cooke (October 2021)