

History at St Agnes CE Primary School

At St Agnes CE Primary School we provide an engaging and inspiring curriculum that promotes our core value of 'love to learn'. Based upon the needs of our children, families and the community, our curriculum aims to equip pupils in acquiring the cultural capital needed to flourish in education and beyond. We achieve this through a knowledge based and skills led approach, rich in language and vocabulary, supported through enriching experiences which allows all of our children to 'learn do well'. Pupils will leave St Agnes well prepared for the next stage of their education – enabling them to grow into active, responsible members of society 'living well together', in modern Britain.

Why we teach History?

History gives children at St. Agnes the opportunity to develop knowledge, skills and concepts, gain chronologic understanding and organise, evaluate and communicate information to make reasoned judgments. At St-Agnes we believe that History should inspire pupils' curiosity to know more about the past and teaching should equip pupils to ask perceptive questions and think critically.

We teach pupils to understand the complexity of people's lives, the process of change, the diversity of societies and relationships between different groups. We want children to know their own identity and the challenges of their time. The approach to History at St. Agnes, is in line with the National Curriculum, however the objectives have been broken down and are specific to each year group. This is to ensure that prior knowledge is built upon and new learning is unlocked year upon year. The curriculum devised for History ensures that our pupils grow and develop and become more aware of the historical perspective by placing their growing



With the help of Manchester Fire Service, year 2 held their own Great Fire of Longsight.



What History looks like at St Agnes?

When History is taught within a topic, children are exposed to a range of history skills and concepts as well as chronology. This is evident in children's topic books, and classroom displays, however photographs are also taken to evidence the children's learning.

When you talk to children at St-Agnes it is clear that they understand what History is and why it is taught. In these discussions they often reference to the timeline when discussing what they have learnt, which is showcased in each classroom, along with the terminology used throughout History lessons.

The timelines displayed in the classrooms reference the learning (history topics) the children have been taught in the previous year and the current year group. This enables the children to build their chronological knowledge with a sequence of events whilst being a reference point for topics of discussion.

Children can verbally express if they are comparing and contrasting or observing for example in a ks1 lesson. In a ks2 lesson children are expected to show they can Summarise, Synthesise, Explain and Demonstrate Understanding.

How we teach History?

At St. Agnes, History lessons are planned using the keys skills in our lesson objectives, located in our St Agnes progression of learning History document. This is to ensure coverage and progression of these areas and History objectives. Teachers work collaboratively to produce yearly curriculum overviews in line with their year groups topics. The topic endpoints are used to assess the children at the end of the topic.

History is taught in alternate half terms with Geography depending on the topic being taught.. Some objectives are combined with Geography, Computing, Science and English. The school's approach to History is to provide children with the skills and knowledge to master the subject, therefore all lessons are planned to be accessible by all children. This is achieved by encouraging partnered or group work especially in discussion. The curriculum is reviewed termly and any concerns over coverage is discussed and managed in cross curricular learning, and this can sometimes be done in a whole school context.

Links

National Curriculum 2014

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-history-programmes-of-study/national-curriculum-in-england-history-programmes-of-study>

Historical Association

<https://www.history.org.uk/>

Espresso

<https://www.discoveryeducation.co.uk/>

"A high-quality history education will help pupils gain a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world. It should inspire pupils' curiosity to know more about the past"
The National Curriculum

"I like being a historian you can find out about people like us but in the past"

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