

How History is taught at Swindon Village Primary School



Intent, Implementation and Impact

History at Swindon Village Primary School

Curriculum Intent

SVPS has designed a History curriculum which allows children to gain a broad and full understanding of all the areas outlined in the National Curriculum.

Our history curriculum inspires pupils to have a curiosity about the world around them and the people who live and have lived there. It enables pupils to develop better understanding of the world in which we live. Building knowledge and understanding of historical events and trends enables them to develop a much greater appreciation of Britain's past in relation to current events and will help them feel a sense of belonging and identify where they fit into our world. We want our children to see themselves as part of both a global and a local community that has roots in the past and present.

Children will work through a variety of exciting topics throughout their time at SVPS. Each topic has a comprehensive knowledge organiser which is used to ensure the children are able to develop their Historical knowledge, skills and understanding (see the Knowledge Organisers). There will be opportunities for various activities, launch and landing days, take part in whole school tri-annual 'Big History Quizzes', visits from external 'expert' visitors and school trips which will engage children further in their studies.

Children's skills will be developed in line with a clear skills progression. This document (see the Skills Progression at the end of the curriculum document) enables the children to develop new skills each year and covers all of the strands of the NC.

The National Curriculum Expectations are:

EYFS

Children will talk about the lives of the people around them and their roles in society. They will know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class. Pupils will understand the past through settings, characters and events encountered in books read in class and storytelling.

<u>KS1</u>

Pupils will develop their historical knowledge about the world, the United Kingdom and their locality. Pupils will begin to use Historical skills to develop an awareness of the past (some of which will be within living memory and some beyond living memory) and will use subject specific vocabulary relating to the passing of time. They will know 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 ask and answer questions, choosing and using parts of stories and other sources to show that they know and understand key features of events. Our pupils will understand some of the ways in which we find out about the past and identify different ways in which it is represented. They will know about the lives of significant individuals in the past who have contributed to national and international achievements. Our pupils will also know about significant historical events, people and places in their own locality.

KS2

Pupils 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. They 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 source and understand how to check for authenticity and validity. Pupils will look back to history to discover how our lives in the present have been influenced by events in the past.

Curriculum Implementation

Throughout their time at SVPS, children will cover a wide range of exciting topics, each supported by a comprehensive knowledge organiser. The historical topics will provide children with a coherent knowledge of Britain's history and that of the wider world. They will have learnt and developed Historical skills in accordance with the SVPS skills progression document. This allows the children to acquire and develop transferable skills that are appropriate to History, the wider curriculum and for their year group. The SVPS skills progression document also ensures progression throughout the school.

- There will be a launch and landing day to start and finish each topic.
- Children will get the opportunity to go on various historically themed trips throughout their time at SVPS or will have an opportunity to interview or work alongside an external historical 'expert' visitor brought in to add impact to a specific topic
- At the end of each unit, children will complete an extended piece of writing based on the topic question. This question is displayed on the classroom wall and is written at the top of the knowledge organiser
- History is taught throughout the Autumn Term. Each year group covers two topics

Teachers are expected to:

- Plan engaging lessons which build on prior knowledge. They need to include teaching of the skills as stated in the skills progression document
- Begin each lesson with a review of the knowledge organiser to enable children to retain the Historical facts and figures
- Create an engaging learning environment including a History display appropriate to the topic. Time
 lines, The Big Question, key images (actual photographs where possible rather than third party
 cartoon or inferior images), artefacts, people or places and age appropriate historical texts should also
 be available
- KAT team will carry out regular monitoring to include book scrutiny and pupil interviews

SVPS ensures that all children can access learning in History by:

- Appropriately adjusted tasks to support and enhance learning
- Small group or 1:1 support where and when necessary
- AfL strategies used in the classroom to assess children's learning and adapt teaching or tasks where necessary
- Providing additional activities to challenge children
- Use of drama or other appropriate practical activities used to stimulate, recreate and help the children understand events from the past and where possible, link them to the present or other time periods.

SEND or EAL children are supported at SVPS by:

- Pre-teaching vocabulary prior to beginning the topic
- Appropriately adjusted activities to support and foster learning experiences
- Seating children alongside good role models to support one another
- Providing visual or practical prompts
- Teaching lessons using a variety of techniques to appeal to different learning styles such as visual, auditory and kinaesthetic
- Clearly organised displays to include time lines, The Big Question, key images (actual photographs
 where possible rather than third party cartoon or inferior images), artefacts, people or places and age
 and stage appropriate historical texts

Curriculum Impact

All children in the school will be able to speak confidently and enthusiastically about their History learning, skills and knowledge. They will have a good depth of knowledge about the 12 topics studied and will be able to apply this knowledge and skills to their learning in the future.

Children engaged in Historical learning are:

- Engaged and enthusiastic learners
- Able to ask and answer questions about their topics
- Have a good knowledge of various periods of history and be able to sequence them
- Able to have an understanding of and recount key events that have shaped our locality, Britain and the wider World
- Able to use artefacts or different resources to help them reach hypotheses about a period of time or people from the past and how they lived
- Able to make connections between different periods of history
- Able to make connections from events from the past and modern life
- Given an opportunity to question or interview an 'expert' visitor about a specific period of history being studied
- Able to discuss the validity or authenticity of sources of information (historical detectives)
- Actively involved in launch and landing days and trips

At SVPS we know our children are doing well by:

- Teaching lessons which are planned and based on the knowledge organisers, skills progression document and prior learning
- Marking and feedback communication between pupils and adults
- Photographic evidence
- Displays of work
- Looking at the extended piece of writing at the end of each topic which answers the topic question
- Book scrutiny and pupil interviews
- Quick fire quizzes about the knowledge organisers at the beginning of every lesson
- Children communicating with knowledge and authority about History and Historical events and people

Children at SVPS will become inquisitive, reflective learners who are enthusiastic about History. They will be able to share their Historical knowledge and demonstrate their Historical skills. History enables children to gain a deeper understanding of the world that we live in and the role that we all need to play in protecting the future of our planet by learning from the past.