

INTENT



Statement of intent for History

The intent identifies what our pupils need from our History curriculum:

Our pupils need:

- to build an understanding of the past through developing and combining: their understanding of the current world, their use of historical evidence and their sense of periodicity;
- to expand their understanding of human experience beyond their everyday lives by understanding the lives of people in the past;
- to deepen their tolerance and respect for others through their awareness that people in the past were of equal intelligence and creativity to our pupils, yet organised their lives and societies differently;
- to develop an empathy for others through their consideration of past people's thoughts and reasons for acting as they did;
- to develop a critical approach to the world around them by rooting their opinions of past people in evidence and questioning common assumptions and beliefs;
- to draw inspiration from figures in the past who faced similar challenges to those they face or know about;
- to touch and view non-quotidian historical artefacts and reproductions;
- to develop their skim reading and retrieval skills through the use of increasingly complex secondary sources;
- to develop their inferential skills through close readings of historically-set stories or primary sources;
- to confidently and politely argue orally for the validity of their views of the past by rooting their discussions in sound factual knowledge;
- to express their understanding of the past through a range of written genres appropriate to the historical knowledge being communicated (e.g. a diary for empathetic reconstruction, a reasoned argument for a historiographical debate).

This will be achieved through high-quality and ambitious teaching where we build children's knowledge skills and concepts sequentially so learning opportunities reflect the needs of all pupils and which provides opportunities for subject-specific reading and writing practice.

Opportunities and Experiences in History for pupils at Cirencester Primary School

ALL pupils will:

- regularly be exposed to the use of historical evidence to support claims and explanations;
- be taught that past and present events were and are caused by people's choices in response to the world around them;
- be exposed to the physical and material culture of the past in ways which deepen their sense of periodicity and chronological understanding;
- use the study of past societies to develop an understanding of how humanity has faced similar problems differently, providing a historically rooted basis for consideration of abstract ideas such as: childhood, gender, poverty, freedom, democracy and immigration;
- be supported to see connections between British history and that of Europe and the wider world;
- be given the chance to express their understanding of the past in ways which link it to historical evidence and their understanding of the present;
- have their lives enriched by visits to museums and historical sites or by the visits of experts and re-enactors to school.

Our aim is to ensure that, as we cannot know our pupils' future paths, any child in our school who may wish to pursue the study of History at degree-level or above will have been provided with a solid, subject-specific foundation for their studies.