

History Curriculum Intent Statement

Intent

At Ecton Village Primary Academy, through our history curriculum children will acquire coherent knowledge and understanding of their past and that of the UK and the wider world. We will develop our children's critical thinking by evaluating sources; making links between the past and the present and looking at the impact of historical and present-day figures and events on their lives. Children will be taught the vocabulary of historians, enabling them investigate and explain their ideas, recount their learning and develop as independent learners. We recognise the importance of highlighting cultural diversity through our history curriculum and nurturing high aspirations; children will study the work of people from different eras, cultures and countries. Through historical study, children will understand concepts such as continuity and change, cause and impact, they will pose historically-valid questions and create their own structured accounts and analyses. They will understand how evidence is used to make historical claims and how contrasting arguments and interpretations of the past have been constructed.

Implementation

Clear and precise teaching underpins our history curriculum. Children are taught the skills and knowledge to enable them to develop as independent learners; to articulate their ideas and to evaluate the sources and information available to them. The vocabulary of historians such as: anachronism, source and provenance are explicitly taught at Key Stage One and revisited throughout Key Stage Two. High-quality fiction and non-fiction texts, underpin the teaching of each of the historical topics. Children are taught, encouraged and supported to read-to-learn. This cumulates in Owls Class when the children work independently to learn about, and share their knowledge of the Vikings, Anglo Saxons and Scots. By reading a variety of sources of information, both fiction and non-fiction, children are taught to evaluate the differing accounts of historical events and eras. The children learn to identify how reading contrasting recounts of the same event deepens their understanding. A 'golden thread' of homes and housing is woven into our history curriculum; by focusing on this aspect children are given the opportunity to make effective comparisons between the historical periods they study. Equally, using a clear timeline, children are taught about contemporaneous civilisations. For example, when studying Ancient Egypt, the children are taught that Britain was in the Stone Age and Iron Age. During the study of global civilisations, their impact on the United Kingdom, both past and present is taught.

Impact

At Ecton Village Primary Academy we teach the children how to learn about history. We give them a toolkit of: historical vocabulary; an ability to evaluate sources; a skill in reading-to-learn; the confidence to ask and answer historical questions and a depth of understanding that enables them to articulate their ideas and learning. From creating their own petroglyphs to challenging historical assumptions through debate, children experience rich and varied outcomes to their learning.