

# History

## Intent

At Shirley Warren Primary and Nursery School, **"We Nurture, We thrive, We Achieve"**, where we foster a love of learning by instilling the values of Respect, Teamwork, Resilience, and Aspiration. Our aim is to provide our students with a strong knowledge and understanding of Britain's history, focusing specifically on our local area of Southampton as well as the wider world. We encourage curiosity about the past and nurture the ability to ask penetrating questions, think critically, evaluate evidence, examine arguments, and develop perspective and judgement. The study of history helps our students comprehend the complexities of people's lives, the process of change, the diversity of societies, and the relationships between different groups. It also enhances their understanding of their own identity, their place within society, and their impact on the world outside the classroom. Our intention is for every student to develop a comprehensive understanding of the past and its significant events. Through this, we aim to enhance their cultural capital, comprehension of the world, and appreciation of their own heritage.

## Implementation

At Shirley Warren Primary and Nursery, History is taught through continuous provision in Nursery and Year R. Within Year R, children will base their historical learning around the topics of Marvellous Me, birthdays, ourselves, celebrations, Dinosaurs, and Knights & castles, as well as the Early Learning Goal (ELG) of past and present. Children learn about understanding the wider world around them and their place within society. They will be able to comment on images of events that are familiar to them, compare and contrast characters from stories, including figures from the past.

In KS1, the historical skills focus on the world around them and their living memory of History in the topics 'Our School and Local Area' and 'Terrific Toys.' They then move on to events that go beyond living history in topics like 'The Great Fire of London' and 'Journey of a Lifetime (Titanic)'. During the topic 'Terrific Toys', children learn about the timeline of toys. They compare and contrast modern and old toys and discuss the differences. They also have an opportunity to explore the roles of key historical figures in every topic, discovering key information and the impact they had on history.

We also have cross-curricular links with Art, where we learn about different artists throughout history, such as David Hockney and Andy Warhol. Children are given the opportunity to replicate their work. As our children's learning travels further back in time, History is brought to life through Design and Technology, as they create their own Elizabethan house for our Great Fire of London topic and a model of the Titanic for our topic 'Journey of a Lifetime'. This ensures a firm foundation for KS2 History.

In KS2, the History curriculum is set out in chronological order from Year 3 up to Year 6. Each class will study two periods in history and will discuss how one period has influenced the ones that followed, so that they can see how history informs the present. Lessons are planned so that pupils are able to view primary and secondary sources and to analyse what we can learn

from them and what interpretations we can make about past events. Each topic focuses on key inquiries which encourage children to debate and analyse differing viewpoints and to accept that, although there will always be uncertainties in history, they can use evidence to draw their own conclusions and to argue to support these using the available evidence. In Year 6, the children study the Mayan Civilization, which is a non-European society that provides opportunities for contrast with British history.

## **Impact**

When children leave the school, their learning in history will have equipped them with knowledge of a broad range of local, British, and world history. As they have progressed, their growing historical knowledge will have helped them understand how people and places have changed over time and how the past shapes the future and holds accountability for many decisions made. The children will have gained historical knowledge of Southampton and will be instilled with the understanding that our area is somewhere to be proud of, as it has had national and international impacts throughout history.

In addition to this, children will leave school with a clear range of historical skills and an understanding of how they can be used within history and other parts of the curriculum.