

History at Horncastle

The aim of History teaching, here at Horncastle, is to stimulate the children's interest, curiosity and understanding of how events that happened in the past have shaped-and still affect-our lives today. History has always been held in high regard at Horncastle, with the school's location having its own rich history. We make full use of the resources within the immediate and wider local area enabling children to develop a deep understanding of the rich history of their locality.

" We know that history matters, we know that it is thrilling, absorbing, fascinating, delightful and infuriating, that it is life."

Stephen Fry, Making History



Aims and Purpose

To understand historical development in the world.

For children to develop an understanding of society and their place within it so that they develop a sense of their cultural heritage.

To develop in children the skills of enquiry, investigation, analysis, evaluation and presentation.

How do we do it?

Our history curriculum is cyclical: Pupils return to the same disciplinary and substantive concepts during their time in primary school. It increases in depth: Each time a concept is revisited, it is covered with greater complexity. Upon returning to each concept, prior knowledge is utilised so pupils can build on previous foundations, rather than starting again.

History teaching focuses on enabling children to think as historians. Whenever possible we provide children with first hand experiences and place an emphasis on examining historical artefacts, photographs and primary sources. We enable children to experience the processes historians use to find out about the past:

We give children the opportunity to visit sites of historical significance. Where possible, we encourage visitors to come into the school and talk about their experiences of events in the past.

The fundamentals

History in the National Curriculum can be summed up in just a few statements: Ordering events in time; Finding differences and similarities; Writing and talking about the past; Using different sources for information; asking and answering questions; All classes in each year group will do all of these at some point and aim to link 'then' and 'now'.

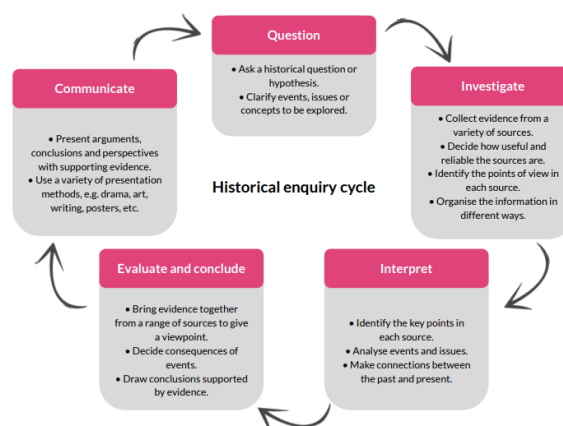
Planning

Our history curriculum aims to ensure that all pupils:

Gain a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world which helps to stimulate pupils' curiosity to know more about the past.

Are encouraged to ask perceptive questions, think critically, weigh evidence, sift arguments, and develop perspective and judgement.

Begin to understand the complexity of people's lives, the process of change, the diversity of societies and relationships between different groups, as well as their own identity and the challenges of their time.



Strategies

We follow the Kapow scheme of work for History, adapting to a local context where possible.

Planned retrieval exercises ensure that children know and remember more.

How do we support our SEND learners?

- Visual, tactile, auditory and kinaesthetic approaches are used, such as supporting teacher talk with visual aids.
- Alternatives to written recording are offered, eg drawing, scribing, word processing, mind maps, digital images, video, voice recording
- Pictures and symbols are used to illustrate abstract, new or historical concepts.
- Pre-teaching of important history vocabulary, concepts and/or processes, where appropriate.
- Scaffolding speaking or writing eg by using sentence starters, writing or speaking frames.