



St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Primary School

'Growing Together Following Jesus'

History Curriculum Statement

This History Policy is set within the context of the whole school aims and mission statement:

Our Curriculum

Our aim at St Anthony of Padua Catholic Primary School, is to deliver a high-quality history education that ignites and stimulates the children's curiosity, in order for them to develop their knowledge, skills and understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world, as set out in the EYFS statutory framework and the Primary National Curriculum with diversity being a key element. We endeavour to develop a love for history for our pupils, by providing a curriculum that is ambitiously broad in scope, rigour, coherence and sequencing.

We aim to provide pupils with engaging and enjoyable lessons that enable the children to develop a coherent knowledge and understanding of the past, so that they can understand the present and the future. Through our curriculum framework, it is our intent to develop chronological understanding by linking current learning to previous learning and for children to make sense of the new knowledge that they acquire.

Children develop a knowledge of how significant events and people fit into a chronological framework. By exploring a range of human experience, they can understand more about themselves as individual members of society and learn to appreciate that different societies have held different beliefs, values and attitudes at different times. Their learning can influence their decisions about their own choices, attitudes and values. Through History, children learn the valuable skills of research, selecting and evaluating evidence, drawing conclusions and arguing their point of view as well as developing a sense of their own identity, and understand the challenges of their time.

History provides the powerful knowledge that builds on the wide and secure vocabulary acquisition that underpins literacy and successful communication. Every history lesson plays a central part in developing reading for our pupils. Pupils' extended speaking and writing skills by the richly diverse vocabulary and the fascinating stories that have underpinned that vocabulary acquisition, always driven by a clear disciplinary purpose. Our intent is that the cumulative effect of being secure in rich stories, a detailed 'sense of place' and a profound 'sense of period' sets pupils' curiosity on fire and enables children to make connections.

Our Delivery

At St. Anthony of Padua, our curriculum is shaped by our school vision which aims to enable all children; regardless of background, ability or additional needs, to become the very best version of themselves.

To ensure that pupils develop a secure knowledge that they can build on, our History curriculum is organised into a progression model that outlines the disciplinary concepts, the substantive knowledge and vocabulary to be taught in a sequentially coherent way. Our History Long Term plan is mapped out to ensure that pupils build on secure, prior knowledge. History at St. Anthony of Padua is taught every other half-term, in rotation with Geography, for three terms across the year, with the exception of our Opening Worlds Scheme, which is followed in year 3 and 4. Here, year 3 and 4 pupils' access a weekly history lesson every term.

Beginning in EYFS, children's learning is continually built upon, following the EYFS statutory framework and Primary National curriculum. In Early Years, pupils talk about past and present events in their own lives and in the lives of family members through focussing on Understanding the World. They develop an understanding the past through settings, characters and events encountered in books read in class.

We put a lot of emphasis on core vocabulary through pre-teaching. By doing this, children can read and understand texts more clearly, allowing them to deepen their knowledge and understanding through high-leverage activities that encourage better knowledge retention.

All history topics begin with a pre-learning task which assesses and helps to re-enforces pupil's understanding of connections between prior learning to their current area of historical study. Weekly lessons begin with a recap of the previous lesson's learning, to ensure knowledge is reinforced and then built upon during that lesson, with reading and writing opportunities throughout, as well as other opportunities to present learning, such as drawings, verbally and through role play. During History lessons, children are assessed using formative assessment strategies. A summative assessment task takes place at the end of every topic

We believe that our historians learn in a variety of settings, through different opportunities and so where possible, we encourage learning to move away from the classroom to educational visits, utilising our surrounding historical areas, such as our Liverpool museums. Similarly, when possible, we create opportunities for visitors to come into school to also enhance children's learning to create memorable, effective learning opportunities for all.

Equality of Opportunity:

All pupils have equal access to our History Curriculum. The SLT, Class teacher and Support Staff at ST Anthony of Padua Catholic Primary school are responsible for ensuring that all children have access to the whole curriculum and make the greatest possible progress. Where appropriate, work will be adapted to meet pupils' needs and, if appropriate, extra support given. Pupils will be given suitably challenging activities. Gender and cultural differences will be reflected positively in the teaching materials used.

Our Children

At St. Anthony of Padua outcomes in our History books evidence a broad and balanced curriculum and demonstrate the children's acquisition of identified key knowledge and disciplinary skills. The impact of our curriculum design is to progress over time across key stages. Given that the study of History uniquely addresses the study of humans and society through time, the subject fosters the knowledge, skills and dispositions for pupils to:

- Be curious and resilient in History lessons and relish the challenge and opportunities for fun that the subject offers.
- Be critical and analytical in their thinking, making informed and balanced judgements based on their knowledge of the past.
- Be aware of how historical events have shaped the world today, including History at the local and personal level.
- Use the concepts of continuity and change, cause and consequence, similarity, difference and significance in order to make connections, draw contrasts and analyse trends
- Develop Historical enquiry skills, frame historically-valid questions and create their own structured accounts including written narratives.
- Understand how evidence is used rigorously to make historical claims, and discern how and why contrasting arguments and interpretations of the past have been constructed.
- Visit historically relevant sites and museums and learn from visitors to enhance their learning in History and create positive memories.
- Retain learning and explicitly make connections between what they have previously learned and what they are currently learning.
- Articulate what they have learned in History and can describe significant periods, events and people from the past.
- Remember more, know more and can do more.