



## **History at Starbeck Primary Academy**

We believe that a well-rounded History curriculum will allow children to gain a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world.

### **Intent**

At Starbeck Primary Academy we have carefully designed our History curriculum so that children gain knowledge as they progress through the school. In addition to this, we recognise the important role that History plays in preparing our children with skills that they can use for life, raising their aspirations, understand how to be a good and responsible citizen, understanding change and societal development and a context in which to understand themselves and others. History has always been held in high regard at Starbeck Primary Academy. The school's own rich history, within the context of the local area, is a celebrated and inspiring feature of the school.

The history curriculum at Starbeck Primary Academy draws from and makes full use of the immediate and wider local area, enabling children to develop a deep understanding of the rich history of their locality. We believe engaging in history is a powerful way of exploring and reinforcing British Values, cultures and significant events.

**Implementation** *Our whole curriculum is shaped by our school vision which aims to enable all children, regardless of background, ability, additional needs, to flourish to become the very best version of themselves they can possibly be. We teach the National Curriculum, supported by a clear skills and knowledge progression. This ensures that skills and knowledge are built on year by year and sequenced appropriately to maximise learning for all children.* The history curriculum at Starbeck Primary Academy is carefully planned and structured to ensure that current learning is linked to previous learning and that the school's approaches are informed by current pedagogy. Topics are sensitive to children's interests, as well as the context of the local area. In line with the national curriculum 2014, the curriculum at Starbeck Primary Academy 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.

History is taught in blocks throughout the year, so that children achieve depth in their learning. The key knowledge and skills that children acquire and develop throughout each block have been mapped to ensure progression between year groups throughout the school. At the beginning of each new history topic, teachers refer to classroom timelines to develop children's understanding of chronology. Each topic is introduced with reference to the chronology of previous topics (including those from previous years). By the end of year 6, children will have a chronological understanding of British history from the Stone Age to the present day. They are able to draw comparisons and make connections between different time periods and their own lives. Interlinked with this are studies of world history, such as the ancient civilisations of Greece and the Egyptians.



Cross curricular outcomes in history are specifically planned for and these are indicated Long Term plans. The school's own context is also considered, with opportunities for visits to places of historical interest and learning outside the classroom also identified and embedded in practice. Visits to the local area and use of local artefacts, such as the use of maps and photographs of the local area also support contextualised learning, as well as the acquisition of key knowledge and systematic development of key skills.

Planning is informed by and aligned with the National Curriculum. The history curriculum is designed to ensure appropriate diversity in the significant figures that children learn about. Teachers' cater for the varying needs of all learners, differentiating activities where necessary and as appropriate, and ensuring an appropriate level of challenge. Outcomes of work are regularly monitored to ensure that they reflect a sound understanding of the key identified knowledge.

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) follows the 'Development Matters in the EYFS' guidance which aims for all children in reception to have an 'Understanding of the World; Past and Present, People, Culture and Communities and the Natural World' by the end of the academic year.

Outcomes in topic books evidence a broad and balanced History curriculum and demonstrate the children's acquisition of identified key knowledge.