

## The History Curriculum

### INENT - Our vision for History

At Dobcroft Infant School, we view history not only simple facts and date but encourage pupils to explore the past in an exciting way. History is taught mainly through a topic based approach and gives pupils a chance to explore a wide range of sources from which the past may come alive.

History allows our children to compare and contrast, to examine why things have changed, to learn about historical characters and expand their research skills. We teach children to be open minded and enquiring thinkers who understand cause and effect. We want them to understand how people have lived in the past and compare this to the modern world, so that children can begin to understand their place within the world. History helps children develop empathy and understanding not only for people in who have lived in the past but those they share their lives with today.

### Implementation - How History is taught at Dobcroft Infant School

#### **Foundation Stage**

In both FS1 and FS2, children learn to talk about past and present events in their own lives and in the lives of family members. They learn about similarities and differences between the past and now, for example by exploring artefacts or looking at pictures. The children also use stories and role play to discover more about the past. Our child-led approach to learning means that we explore events and parts of history that are significant to the children, for example learning about Bonfire Night, Diwali and Christmas.



#### **Key Stage 1**

During key stage 1, our children will learn about people's lives and lifestyles. They find out about significant people and events for the recent and more distant past, including those from both Britain and the wider world. They listen and respond to stories and sources of information to help them to ask and answer questions and they learn how the past is different from the present.

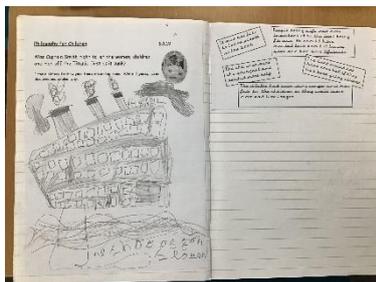
We help the children to develop 5 key skills as historians:

1. **Chronological understanding** – our children will be taught how to place events in chronological order and use words that show a passage of time.
2. **Historical enquiry** – identifying different ways the past is represented and ask questions about the past.
3. **Historical interpretation** - Looking at and using books and pictures, stories, eye witness accounts, pictures, photographs, artefacts, historic buildings, museums, galleries, historical sites and the internet to find out about the past.

By looking at pictures of the Sheffield Flood, I learnt that the water could knock houses down.

Seb, Year 2

4. **Knowledge and understanding of events, people and changes in the past** – Describing differences between then and now; recounting the main events from a significant event in history.



5. **Organisation and communication** – Communicating ideas about people, objects or events from the past in speaking, writing, drawing, role-play, storytelling and using ICT.

To learn more about how history at Dobcroft Infant School please find the following at the bottom of this page:

History Policy

History Curriculum Map

History Progression of Skills

**The learning experience for children:**

***What is the breadth of experience provided for our children?***

- Quality First teaching: variety of teaching styles, varied stimulus
- Quality Resources: a wide range of books, iPad's, online resources & programmes, schemes of work to support teaching
- Visits: e.g. Victorian classroom, museum visits, experiences within school.
- Experiences: role-play, what it would be like to live in the past.



### **IMPACT of History at DIS**

We aim for our teaching of History to have a great impact on the lives of our children not only academically, but also in laying the foundations for social mobility through the promotion of British Values & getting them ready for the next stages of their education. We aim to include a diverse range of historical subjects and significant figures to help children learn more about themselves and the wider world. By focusing on key historical concepts such as chronology, causation, significance and change we help to prepare the children as historians for KS2 and beyond.

### **Inclusion in History**

All children will have access to the History curriculum regardless of ability, gender and race. The whole school policy on Equal Opportunities will apply through the history curriculum. Pupils of all abilities will be taught with their own class. Their thinking will be supported or extended through targeted questioning and scaffolded resources, which will allow for the development of historical enquiry at the appropriate level. As well as drawing on materials

from different levels of study, teachers may plan further differentiation by extending or reducing the breadth of study. Teachers provide students with key historical vocabulary, which is sometimes pre-taught to certain pupils. Very occasionally special arrangements will be made for an exceptionally gifted pupil or a pupil with complex and significant needs. They may follow an individualised programme of work or may receive adult support. We strive hard to meet the needs of those pupils with special educational needs, those with disabilities, those with special gifts and talents, and those learning English as an additional language, and we take all reasonable steps to achieve this.

### **How can you help at home?**

- Take a look at your child's 'Ask me about' board or year group knowledge organiser to find out about the history topics your child will be studying.
- Talk about how life has changed. If possible ask grandparents to contribute too! Share old photographs, films and items like toys or old recordings.
- Visit museums and historical sites – for example Weston Park museum, Abbeydale Industrial hamlet or the National Coal Mining Museum.
- Find out about the history of your area by taking a walk to look at old buildings or monuments or chatting to people who have lived in Sheffield for a long time.
- Read books, visit the library or look on the internet to find out about significant historical events.
- Discover historical facts about other countries and cultures.