



Wessex Learning Trust



Draycott and Rodney
Stoke First School

We Learn Together

History Curriculum Documents





Intent

At Draycott & Rodney Stoke First School, our intent for History education is to inspire curiosity about the past, fostering a deep understanding of how historical events and individuals have shaped the world today. Our curriculum is designed to ensure all children, regardless of background, ability, or additional needs, develop a secure chronological understanding and the skills to think critically about the past. In History, we aim to:

- **Develop Historical Knowledge and Understanding:** Through a carefully sequenced curriculum, pupils gain a secure chronological framework of British, local, and world history, allowing them to appreciate the interconnections between events and societies.
- **Encourage Critical Thinking and Inquiry:** Our enquiry-based approach promotes questioning, investigation, and interpretation of primary and secondary sources, helping pupils evaluate evidence and construct reasoned arguments.
- **Foster Empathy and Appreciation for Diversity:** By exploring multiple perspectives, including those of underrepresented groups, pupils gain a deeper appreciation for different cultures, beliefs, and historical experiences.
- **Inspire Lifelong Engagement with History:** We aim to instill a passion for historical learning beyond the classroom, encouraging independent research, curiosity, and a strong foundation for future studies.

Implementation

To achieve our intent, we deliver a rich and engaging History curriculum that aligns with the National Curriculum and is deeply embedded in our school's vision and values. Our approach includes:

- **Structured Curriculum Progression:** Our History curriculum is carefully planned to ensure the progressive development of historical skills and knowledge from Early Years to Key Stage 2, reinforcing prior learning and building on key concepts.
- **Cross-Curricular Connections:** We integrate History with subjects such as Geography, Art, and English to provide meaningful learning experiences and ensure history is taught in a relevant and engaging context.
- **Active and Enquiry-Based Learning:** Pupils engage in a variety of teaching strategies, including storytelling, role play, debates, and the use of artefacts and primary sources, to bring history to life and support different learning styles.
- **Fieldwork and Experiential Learning:** Educational visits to historical sites, museums, and local landmarks provide first-hand experiences that help pupils connect with the past in a meaningful way.
- **Use of Technology and Research Skills:** Pupils develop historical enquiry skills through digital resources, documentary analysis, and interactive learning tools, enabling them to become independent researchers.
- **Ongoing Assessment for Learning:** Formative assessments, including discussions, quizzes, presentations, and extended writing tasks, allow teachers to monitor progress and tailor lessons to meet the needs of all learners.



Impact

The impact of our History curriculum at Draycott & Rodney Stoke is evident in the depth of knowledge, skills, and attitudes displayed by our pupils:

- **Engaged and Enthusiastic Learners:** Pupils demonstrate a passion for history through active participation in lessons, projects, and historical investigations. Pupil voice surveys indicate that students find history enjoyable and relevant.
- **Strong Historical Understanding:** Pupils confidently articulate key historical concepts, such as chronology, cause and consequence, and change over time, using appropriate historical vocabulary.
- **Empathy and Critical Thinking:** Pupils engage in discussions with a well-rounded perspective, demonstrating an ability to evaluate sources, question bias, and understand diverse historical viewpoints.
- **Preparation for the Future:** Many students express a continued interest in history and related disciplines, using their historical knowledge and critical thinking skills to inform their understanding of the modern world.

At Draycott & Rodney Stoke, we are committed to delivering a high-quality History education that equips pupils with the knowledge, skills, and curiosity to explore the past and understand its significance in shaping the present and future.



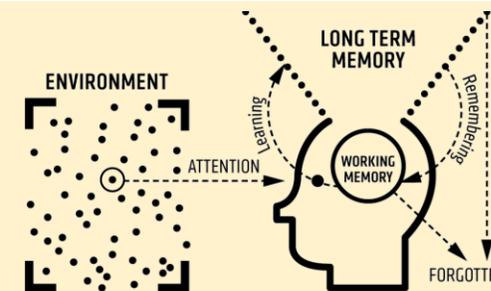
Wessex Learning Trust Principles

Strategic Aims

The Principles codify the shared language that contribute to high-quality, adaptive teaching and inclusion for all. Used routinely to bring the curriculum to life, the pedagogical principles support learning and progress over time. The Wessex Principles are not a linear planning tool, an expectation for every lesson or mandate a formulaic approach to lessons

The principles aim to:

- Reduce cognitive load
- Encourage self regulation
- Provide regular opportunities to identify misconceptions or gaps in learning
- Ensure teaching is adapted to need
- Make learning explicit and transferable across the curriculum, beyond school into the wider community and wider world



Ready To Learn
Routines

→ Linking Prior +
New Learning

→ Focused
Instruction '*I Do*'

→ Practise
Learning '*We Do*'

→ Learning Check
'*You Do*'

→ Consolidating
Learning

★ Subject pedagogies are key ingredients to adaptive teaching, alongside effective formative and summative feedback to monitor progress.

★ Disciplinary and substantive learning is integral to any planned sequence of learning.



<h2>Ready To Learn Routines</h2>		<p>Ref SLC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emotional learning environment - physical learning environment 	<p>Learning environments are safe, inclusive and welcoming. Relationships are positive and love of learning is promoted. Everyone feels safe to take risks and explore learning without judgement. Praise and rewarding effort is used to motivate and engage. A sense of pace and challenge is established from the start of the lesson.</p>
<h2>Linking Prior + New Learning</h2>		<p>Ref SLC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pace of talk, clarity of instruction 	<p>Prior learning is checked and revisited to strengthen connections and longer-term memory. Know more, remember more. Planning ensures new learning builds on prior learning. Vocabulary is explicitly taught using the schools agreed pedagogies so that words are understood, contextualized and barriers to learning are reduced. Problem solving and number skills are revisited, retaught and applied in unfamiliar contexts to support deeper learning. Gaps in learning and misconceptions are revisited, including feedback and improvement tasks. Planning is adapted lesson on lesson so that core skills and knowledge are retaught where necessary. Precision learning is explained so that skills and knowledge are well understood, and misconceptions are minimised.</p>
<h2>Focused Instruction 'I Do'</h2>		<p>Ref SLC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Explicit teaching of vocabulary - Explicit teaching of listening 	<p>The steps to new learning are broken down into manageable amounts and reduce cognitive load. High-quality explanations are used to model thinking, decision making, and application of knowledge. Self-regulation is taught through decision making modelled, visible and explicit. Approaches to getting unstuck are taught and accepted as part of learning. Practical skills and strategies are modelled so that there is a clear understanding of how to solve problems solve and minimize misconceptions. Deeper learning is sequenced so that all learners can understand each developing stage. Learners know what excellent learning looks like and have success criteria to support their independent work.</p>
<h2>Practise Learning 'We Do'</h2>		<p>Ref SLC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Explicit teaching paired, small group talk 	<p>Guided practice and worked examples are used to link new learning and decision making with prior learning. Formative assessment, including rich questioning, is used skilfully to check understanding and the impact of planned learning. Peer explanation + modelling scaffolds and prepares for independent practice. Learners use expert thinking and talking to explore deeper learning. Scaffolding and support (including TAs) is in place to develop and build independence.</p>
<h2>Learning Check 'You Do'</h2>			<p>Skills and knowledge are explored using a variety of contexts. Independent practice and application of learning (including homework) builds confidence, self esteem and motivation. Metacognition and self-regulation are developed over time. Learning is consolidated. Scaffolding and support is reduced and removed over time. Feedback is used to deepen learning and address misconceptions.</p>
<h2>Consolidating Learning</h2>			<p>Learner's plan, review and evaluate their progress reflecting on what excellent learning looks like and success criteria. Next steps are identified and used to inform teacher planning and develop mastery approaches over time. Learning skills continue. <i>Next lessons, rest of day, community, wider world.</i></p>



National Curriculum and EYFS Framework

Substantive Knowledge

Learning about...

Generative Knowledge

- **Substantive Concepts** embedded within units and revisited many times e.g. invasion, empire, society
- **Chronological knowledge** – understanding broad characteristics and having an overview knowledge of historical periods (e.g. Romans, Ancient Egypt)
 - **Topic Knowledge** – a rich knowledge of the period/place/society they are studying.

Fingertip Knowledge

- Knowledge of minor facts and dates from units (e.g. Romans, Ancient Egypt) that do not necessarily generate a wider historical understanding.

Disciplinary Knowledge

Learning how to...

The Approach to Historical Enquiry

'Asking historical questions, using sources and communicating ideas.'



Disciplinary Concepts

Second-order concepts

'Historical Interpretations', 'Change and Continuity', 'Similarities and Differences', 'Cause and Consequence', 'Understand Significance of Events and People'



National Curriculum Programmes of Study and EYFS Framework

		EYFS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Historical Knowledge	Knowledge & Understanding of British History	ELG 13c: Understand the past through settings, characters and events encountered in books read in class and storytelling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes within living memory – where appropriate, these should be used to reveal aspects of change in national life 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes in Britain from the Stone Age (c.3 million – 2500 BCE) to the Iron Age (c.1200 BCE to 550 BCE) The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain (c. 27 BCE to AD 476) Britain’s settlement by Anglo-Saxons (AD410 to 1066) and Scots 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Viking (AD 800 to 1150 AD) and Anglo-Saxon struggle for the Kingdom of England to the time of Edward the Confessor A study of an aspect or theme in British history that extends pupils' chronological knowledge beyond 1066. 	
	Local History		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant historical events, people and places in their own locality 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A local history study (1 x KS1, 1 x LKS2, 1x UKS2) linked to a studied period of History where possible 			
	Knowledge and understanding of Wider World History		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Events beyond living memory that are significant nationally or globally The lives of significant individuals in the past who have contributed to national and international achievements, some should be used to compare aspects of life in different periods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The achievements of the earliest civilizations – an overview of where and when the first civilizations appeared and a depth study of one of the following: Ancient Sumer (c.5000-2047 BCE) , The Indus Valley (c.3300 BCE to 1300 BCE) , Ancient Egypt (c. 3100 BCE to 30 BCE), The Shang Dynasty of Ancient China (c. 1600 BCE to 1046 BCE) Ancient Greece (c. 800 BCE BCE to c. AD 146) – a study of Greek life and achievements and their influence on the western world 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A non-European society that provides contrasts with British history – one study chosen from: early Islamic civilization, including a study of Baghdad c.AD 900; Mayan civilization c.AD 900; Benin (West Africa) c.AD 900 – 1300 			
History Skills and Concepts		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ELG 13b: Know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be aware of the past, using common words and phrases relating to time Fit people and events into a chronological framework Identify similarities and differences between periods Use wide vocabulary of everyday historical terms Ask and answer questions Choose and use from stories and other sources to show understanding Understand some ways we find out about the past Identify different ways in which past is represented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to develop chronologically secure knowledge of history Establish clear narratives within and across periods studied Note connections, contrasts and trends over time Develop the appropriate use of historical terms Regularly address and sometimes devise historically valid questions Understand how knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources Construct informed responses by selecting and organising relevant historical information Understand that different versions of the past may exist, giving some reasons for this 				



Learning about...(Knowledge)

	EYFS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Local History	Familiar situations in the past (e.g. homes, school and transport) and how these may have differed in the past. Similarities and differences between the past and present, drawing from their own experiences and what has been read to them in class The past, through settings, characters and events encountered in books read in class and storytelling.	Places: Significant historical events, people and places in their own locality. Significant historical events that show Britain has a special history. (Can they explain how their local area was different in the past?)		Local History: Pupils should be taught about an aspect of local history. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A depth study linked to one of the British areas of study listed above. A study over time tracing how several aspects of national history are reflected in the locality (this can go beyond 1066) 		Local History: Pupils should be taught about an aspect of local history. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A study or aspect of history or a site dating from a period beyond 1066 that is significant in the locality. 	
Knowledge and Understanding of World History	Familiar situations in the past (e.g. homes, school and transport) and how these may have differed in the past. Similarities and differences between the past and present, drawing from their own experiences and what has been read to them in class The past, through settings, characters and events encountered in books read in class and storytelling.	Events: Events beyond living memory that are significant nationally or globally e.g. Great Fire of London or first aeroplane flight (Do they recognise that we celebrate different events because of what happened many years ago?)		Ancient Civilizations: the achievements of the earliest civilisations – an overview of where and when the first civilisations appeared and a depth study of <u>one</u> of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ancient Sumer The Indus Valley Ancient Egypt or The Shang Dynasty of Ancient China (Can they summarise what Britain may have learnt from other countries and civilisations?) Ancient Greece: Greek life and achievements and their influence on the western world)		Non-European Study: understand about a non-European Society that provides contrast with British History – <u>one</u> study chosen from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early Islamic civilisation, including a study of Bagdad c. AD900 Mayan Civilisation c. AD900 or Benin (West Africa) c.AD900-1300 	
Tier 2 Vocabulary	important, evidence, observe, compare, sources, past, present, older, newer, years, decades, centuries, a long time ago, recently, kings, queens, power, timeline, reliable, question, event, fact, fiction, memory, living, period, remember			significant, artefacts, reliable, ideas, beliefs, attitudes, primary, secondary, interpretations, continuity, change, diversity, legacy, social, religious, ethnic, cultural, political, technological, reliable, valid, frame, contrasting, construct, occur			
Tier 3 Vocabulary	artefacts, civilisation, monarchy, parliament, democracy, war, peace, chronology, century, decade, global			Propaganda, chronology, era, civilisation, monarchy, parliament, democracy, war, peace, Bronze Age, Iron Age, Neolithic, Romans, Anglo-Saxons, Scots, Vikings, Christian, empire, BC/AD or BCE/CE -(but you can't mix the terms) 900BC AD900 / 900BCE CE900			



Learning how to...(Skills)

	EYFS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Chronological understanding		Sequence events in their lives. Sequence artefacts from very different periods.	Describe memories of key events in their lives. Sequence artefacts closer in time and give reasons for their order.	Place the time studied on a timeline. Use dates and terms from the period of study.	Place events from a period studied on a timeline. Begin to date events. Understand more complex terms e.g. BC / AD	Know and sequence key events of time studied. Use relevant terms and period labels. Make comparisons between different times in the past.	Place current study on a timeline in relation to other studies Use relevant dates and terms. Sequence up to ten events on a timeline.
Interpretations of History		Recognise the different between fact and fiction using stories. Consider how reliable adults are when talking about the past.	Compare events in the past using pictures or photos. Consider how reliable these pictures/stories are.	Identify and give reasons for different ways in which the past is represented. Compare different versions of the same story.	Begin to evaluate how useful different sources are – what can different pieces of evidence tell us about the past?	Offer reasons for different versions of history – why do some people see the same events differently?	Start to link sources together to arrive at conclusions. Consider ways of checking accuracy of interpretations – how can they find out if interpretations are fact, fiction or opinion.
Historical Enquiry		Ask and answer simple questions about the past. Answer questions using an artefact/picture from the past.	Use a source (an older person, book) to answer questions about the past.	Begin to research specific events from the past – using the library/internet. Use a range of sources to find out about the past.	Choose evidence and use it to build up a picture of the past. Communicate their findings orally and in writing – and offer a point of view about it. Ask a wider variety of questions.	Begin to identify primary and secondary evidence. Select relevant sections of evidence. Use the library and internet with increasing confidence.	Recognise primary and secondary evidence. Use a range of sources to find out about an event. Use several sources to produce a fluent account.



Learning through...(Understanding/Application)

	EYFS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
		Handle evidence/observe to ask and answer questions about the past.	Develop questioning of the past using question words: who, what, why, when, where, how?	Use a wider variety of evidence to develop questioning.	Suggest suitable sources of evidence that would help with their questioning of the past.	Select sources of evidence that would help their questioning of the past and give the reasons for their choices.	Select a wide range of evidence to help their questioning of the past and consider what is most useful.
		Describe significant people from the past.	Compare the lives of some significant people from the past.	Give a broad overview of life for people in Britain during the period of study.	Describe the characteristics features of the experience of people in the past e.g their experiences, beliefs. Describe the social, ethnic, cultural or religious diversity of the past would affect people.	Explain how the main changes in a period of history would impact on people e.g. social or religious change.	Explain how the changes and continuity in the period of study would impact on people's lives.
		Describe historical events (local, national, global)	Describe historical events (local, national, global) Describe why we might remember/celebrate these events today.	Describe different accounts of historical events.	Describe causes and consequences of historical events.	Explain how historical events demonstrate social, ethnic, cultural or religious diversity.	Explain how historical events demonstrate social, ethnic, cultural or religious diversity. Explain how historical events, demonstrate social, political, religious, technological and/or cultural factors.
		Place events and artefacts on a timeline	Label timelines with words like past, present. Use dates where appropriate.	Place events, artefacts, historical figures on a timeline using dates.	Begin to show an understanding of change over time and representing this on a timeline.	Begin to show an understanding of change and continuity over time and be able to represent them on a timeline.	Use dates and terms accurately in describing events.
			Identify some of the different ways the past has been represented.	Describe some of the different ways the past has been represented.	Explain some of the reasons why the past might be represented in different ways.	Understand the need to use more than one source of evidence to get a full understanding of how the past has been represented.	Show an awareness of propaganda and how that might affect how the past is represented.
		Recount changes that have happened in their own lives	Recount changes that have happened in the past.	Give reasons for change happening in History.	Understand the concept of change and continuity over time.	Describe changes and continuity that have happened in the locality of the school. Explain why these changes might have happened.	Describe the main changes in a period of history using terms like social, religious, political, technological and cultural. Identify periods of rapid change in history and compare them with times of relatively little change.
		Begin to use historical vocabulary to communicate ideas e.g. a long time ago, recently, years, decades.	Begin to use historical vocabulary to communicate ideas e.g. a long time ago, recently, years, decades	Use English, Maths and Computing skills to a good standard to communicate information about the past.	Use English, Maths and Computing skills to a good standard to communicate information about the past.	Use English, Maths and Computing skills to an exceptional standard to communicate information about the past. Use original ways to present information and ideas.	Use English, Maths and Computing skills to exceptional standard to communicate information about the past. Use original ways to present information and ideas.



Long Term Plan

	EYFS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Theme 1 <i>Ourselves and Humankind</i>	Exciting Events To deepen children's understanding and organisation of events using basic chronology, for example starting school and birthdays.	Family History and Traditions Children will explore their own family history and learn how families and traditions have changed over time. They will compare their lives with those of parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents. Children will also discover how special family traditions—like birthdays, festivals, and holidays—can be different in the past and across cultures.		Hunters, Gatherers and Early Humans Children will explore what life was like in prehistoric times, starting with the Stone Age. They will learn how early humans lived, hunted, gathered food, made tools, and built shelters.			
Theme 2 <i>Culture and Diversity</i>	Past and Present To understand some similarities and differences between things in the past and things now. For example, how we travel around.	Great Fire of London Children will learn about the Great Fire of London, a significant event in history that happened over 350 years ago in 1666. They will find out how the fire started, how it spread, and what life was like at that time. They will explore the changes it caused and why it is remembered today.		Tools, Trade and Transformation Children will look at how life changed over time, from the Paleolithic (Old Stone Age) to the Neolithic (New Stone Age), and into the Bronze Age and Iron Age.			
Theme 3 <i>Community and Citizenship</i>	Amazing Artefacts To learn about the past through pictures, stories , artefacts and accounts, explaining some similarities and differences.						



Long Term Plan

	EYFS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Theme 4 <i>Exploration and Discovery</i>	Dinosaur Days To recognise that some things happen a long time before they were born.						
Theme 5 <i>Expression and Creativity</i>	Fascinating Families To know some of the things that make their family tree unique.	The Strawberry Line Children will explore the history of the Strawberry Line, a railway that once ran through Draycott and Cheddar. This railway helped carry people, goods, and especially strawberries from the Cheddar Valley to other parts of the country. Although the trains no longer run, the old railway line is now a path that people can walk and cycle on. Children will learn how this area has changed over time and why the railway was important to local people.		Gladiators, Gods and the Roman Empire Children will learn about the Roman Empire and how it changed life in Britain. They will find out who the Romans were, why they invaded Britain, and what they left behind. From roads and baths to Roman soldiers and villas, children will explore the lasting impact of the Romans on our lives today.			
Theme 6 <i>Ourselves and Humankind</i>	Roles and Responsibilities To learn about the lives of people around them and their roles in society, as well as the lives of people across the world.						