



Curriculum Intent: History

Broad and Balanced Curriculum

History at Earley St Peter's is a vital part of the curriculum, inspiring pupils' curiosity about the world they live in. Through the study of British and global history, pupils develop a coherent understanding of the past, laying a strong foundation for further learning. History fosters critical thinking by encouraging pupils to ask questions and analyse evidence and artefacts. Our engaging curriculum includes invaluable hands-on experiences, such as Year Four's visit to the Chiltern Open Air Museum, where students handle authentic artefacts from the Anglo-Saxon period. In Year Six, pupils immerse themselves in a World War II workshop, experiencing life as an evacuee while examining historical items and evidence. Meanwhile, Year Three transports the pupils to the Victorian era during their visit to the Milestone Museum, bringing history to life and deepening their understanding of the past.

These experiences help pupils to understand the complexity of societies, the process of change, the diversity of people and their own identity within the challenges of their time. History is taught as a discrete subject as well as integrated into other areas such as Geography and English.

Planning and Implementation

In Key Stage 1, pupils develop an awareness of the past by comparing different historical periods with the present. This foundational stage is crucial for fostering an understanding of how history shapes our society. Children learn about significant individuals who have made noteworthy contributions to national and international achievements, including Bessie Coleman, Christopher Columbus, Matthew Henson, the Wright Brothers, Amelia Earhart, and Buzz Aldrin. Through their stories, pupils gain insight into the diverse roles that different figures have played in shaping human endeavour and exploration.

Additionally, students explore events beyond living memory, such as The Great Fire of London, which provides context for their understanding of long-term societal changes. They investigate the evolution of schools over time and examine toys from the past, fostering a sense of continuity and change. This exploration not only enhances their historical knowledge but also enriches their appreciation of the world around them. Their learning is structured within a chronological framework to build their understanding of time.

In Key Stage 2, pupils deepen their knowledge of British, local and world history within a chronological context. In lower Key Stage 2, they study periods such as the Stone Age, Roman era, Anglo-Saxons and Vikings. In upper Key Stage 2, they explore Ancient Greece, Ancient Egypt



and World War II. Pupils learn to identify connections, contrasts and trends over time while using historical terms accurately. They are taught how knowledge of the past is constructed from a variety of sources and how to evaluate the reliability of these sources.

Impact

Through the history curriculum, pupils develop a broad understanding of national and international history. They expand their vocabulary, including subject-specific Tier 3 terms and inquisitive Tier 2 language. By handling historical artefacts, such as an Iron Age sword or feeling the weight of a gas mask, pupils develop a tangible connection to the past. Our workshops, including a dedicated Stone Age session where children learn to wield spears correctly, further enhance their understanding. Additionally, trips to sites like Rhos-y-Gwaliau offer invaluable real-world perspectives. These engaging activities foster curiosity and encourage a deeper engagement with history, inspiring the next generation to explore and appreciate the rich tapestry of our heritage.

Our pupils learn to think and talk like historians, organising and communicating their knowledge with confidence, all underpinned by a clear chronological understanding of the past. The inclusive curriculum ensures all pupils, including those who are disadvantaged or with SEND, achieve strong progress.