

History

Why teach History (Intent)

The purpose of our History curriculum is to develop a deep chronological understanding of the past and its ongoing influence on the present and future. We aim to cultivate critical thinking, analytical skills and an appreciation for the diverse range of people and events that have shaped human civilisation. Our program is designed to encourage students to explore and curiously enquire about historical events, figures and movements so that they understand their own place in the world and their connection to human development over time. It is important to us that our children learn about key periods of time through the relevance of their locality here in Penketh and Warrington.



How we teach History (Implementation)

To achieve this intent, children enjoy a broad and inclusive curriculum that covers a wide range of historical periods, regions and themes spanning from prehistoric times to present day. This wide coverage seeks to provide children with a comprehensive understanding of events that have shaped the world they live in today. Teachers recognise the importance of sequencing and building on prior knowledge to help develop children's chronological understanding. As such, Early Years and Key Stage 1 topics begin by focussing on events within children's living memory. This helps our children to create links with their own understanding of the world we live in. Students will then build on this as they look at events beyond their living memory as well as significant events, people and places within our local history. Moving into Key Stage 2, children begin by looking at Prehistory and the civilisations that followed this time. Sequencing events in this way provides children with a historical narrative so that they can chronologically paint a picture of the past within their minds. During lessons, teachers plan retrieval activities that encourage children to draw on their prior learning, to help with their chronological understanding and to ensure learning is built upon continually. To support this, all classrooms display a historical timeline with key events and figures signposted; topics from each year group are labelled with an arrow to help children contextualise the timing of an event with respect to present day and any previous events that they have covered. Quality-first teaching is enhanced by enrichment opportunities. Teachers carefully plan trips, visitors, workshops and access high-quality resources and historical artefacts to support children's understanding.

What your children will learn (Impact)

Through our History curriculum, our children develop a deep understanding of history and its relevance to their lives and the world around them. They gain the ability to think critically about historical narratives and assess the credibility of sources. Our History curriculum aims to produce informed, thoughtful individuals who are capable of engaging in local life with a deep understanding of the past and its implications for the future. Ultimately, we hope to inspire our children to be lifelong learners and active participants in the ongoing process of historical enquiry and understanding, contributing to a more informed and just society.