

History at The Vines

Intent

At The Vine Schools, our history curriculum is designed to inspire curiosity about the past whilst developing children as knowledgeable, reflective and empathetic historians.

We provide a coherent understanding of British, local and world history, helping children understand how the past shapes the present.

We emphasise chronology, historical enquiry and empathy, enabling children to explore perspectives and develop critical thinking.

- Develop secure understanding of historical periods
- Use subject-specific vocabulary accurately
- Ask and answer historical questions
- Analyse sources and understand reliability
- Identify change, continuity and significance
- Understand different perspectives

Implementation

We use Cornerstones as the foundation for our history curriculum, providing a structured and knowledge-rich framework.

This is adapted to reflect our values and local context, ensuring a curriculum that is both rigorous and distinctive.

Units are organised around enquiry questions, supporting deep thinking and connections across time periods.

- Chronology
- Society and civilisation
- Power and leadership
- Conflict and invasion
- Exploration and settlement
- Beliefs and culture
- Legacy and significance

Historical skills are explicitly taught and developed progressively, including enquiry, interpretation and evaluation.

Children engage with a range of sources and learn to question, analyse and interpret evidence.

History is linked to writing and other subjects, with meaningful outcomes and cross-curricular connections.

Early Years

Children begin to understand the past through their own experiences, developing early chronological awareness and understanding of change.

Key Stage 1

Children explore significant events and people, developing basic enquiry skills and understanding of chronology.

Key Stage 2

Children deepen their understanding of British and world history, engaging in more complex enquiry and analysis.

Impact

Children leave The Vine Schools with strong historical knowledge, skills and curiosity.

- Secure understanding of key periods
- Ability to place events chronologically
- Confidence using historical vocabulary
- Ability to analyse and question sources
- Understanding of different interpretations
- Ability to make connections across time

Children become thoughtful, informed and empathetic historians, ready for the next stage of their education.