



# Alexander Hosea Primary School

*'Roots to grow, wings to fly'*

## History Policy

### **Introduction**

History is the written record of the development of human societies. It is the study of the past in Britain and the wider world. Pupils can gain an understanding of how past events have shaped the present and may influence the future.

History is important because:

- it is the body of knowledge essential to our understanding of the development of the modern world
- the skills and knowledge developed through the study of history have a wide applicability to everyday life
- historical awareness is a prerequisite for responsible participation in society and underpins the teaching of British values.

### **Aims**

This policy is underpinned by the school aims to provide for all the needs of the child through our school vision and values which promote,

Adaptability

Self-belief

Perseverance

Inclusion

Respect

Enquiry

Our aims in teaching history are that all children will:

- develop an enjoyment and commitment to learning
- build on their strengths, interests and experiences
- develop their confidence in their capacity to learn and work independently and collaboratively
- know and understand the history of these islands as a coherent, chronological narrative, from the earliest times to the present day: how people's lives have shaped this nation and how Britain has influenced and been influenced by the wider world
- learn about the roles that individuals, movements and events have played in shaping modern society
- learn to study historical evidence, asking questions and solving problems
- develop the ability to communicate historical knowledge and understanding, orally, visually and in writing
- appreciate how and why some aspects of the past are subject to different interpretations.

### **Guidelines**

History is a non core subject in the National Curriculum(2014). By the end of each key stage, pupils are expected to know, apply and understand the matters, skills and processes

specified in the relevant programme of study. The history curriculum is divided into key stages which develop skills and become increasingly challenging. Pupils in The Foundation Stage will follow the Early Learning goals for this age group.

In Key Stage 1, pupils should develop an awareness of the past, using common words and phrases relating to the passing of time. There is a strong focus on events within living memory and of significant historical events, people and places in their own locality. At Key Stage 2, pupils should continue to develop a chronologically secure knowledge and understanding of British, local and world history, establishing clear narratives within and across the periods they study.

### **Strategies for the Teaching of History**

History is taught through a cross-curricular theme based approach.

Teaching history should ensure that pupils gain knowledge, skills and understanding as detailed in the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum and National Curriculum. The programme of study for Key Stage 2 has been organised across the four years to enable all content in the programme of study to be covered.

The teaching of history develops a range of study skills allowing children increasingly to take control of their learning:

- history is studied through enquiry into events in the past and their interpretation
- chronological understanding is developed
- knowledge and understanding of events, people and changes in the past are studied
- information handling skills, including the use of a wide range of source materials, are explicitly taught
- resources are made readily available and accessible
- pupils are encouraged to communicate their findings to others using a variety of methods including written or verbal presentations and use of graphs or pictures.

Excellence in history is celebrated in display and presentation including:-

- displays in the classroom and around the school developed through a themed approach teaching and learning
- communication of the results of historical study during whole school or whole class gatherings.

### **Resources**

Central resources are the responsibility of the history subject leader. These include videos, DVDs and textbooks. The library also has books on historical subjects and is used for reference.

Information Technology is a major resource which is used in history for

- communicating information (word processing and graphic/drawing packages)
- handling information (databases and data capture equipment)
- modelling (simulations and spreadsheets)
- Internet Web Sites for research

### **Assessment**

Children will be assessed against the criteria in the EYFS and National Curriculum.

### **Equal Opportunities**

All teaching and support staff at Alexander Hosea School are responsible for ensuring that

all children, irrespective of gender, ability, ethnic origin and social circumstances, have access to the whole curriculum and make the greatest possible progress.

### **Special Educational Needs**

All children will have access to a broad, balanced curriculum which includes History and will have the opportunity to make the greatest progress possible.

### **Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)**

This policy has been screened to ensure that we give 'due consideration' to equality of opportunity and has been agreed and formally approved by the appropriate reviewing and ratification Committee.

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