

Our History Rationale

The history units have been ordered to provide a coherent curriculum that develops children's knowledge of chronology, historical periods and overarching substantive concepts such as power, hierarchy and significance over time. This will then provide children with a horizontal, vertical and diagonal approach to learning to provide children learning opportunities to remain their long term memory.

KS1

The projects in Year 1 start from the children's own experiences in the past, their own family history and events within living memory. They then introduce time periods and events beyond living memory and allow the children to compare the past with the familiar environment of their own school. The Year 2 KRPs look at a broader range of time periods, focusing on significance and the people who have greatly influenced history.

KS2

British History

The Key Stage 2 KRPs start by teaching British history in chronological order and create a continuous narrative across Year 3 and 4, from the Stone Age to 1066, with each KRP beginning where the last one ended to allow for a continuous approach to historical learning.

Civilisations

After the last British history KRPs, the children study the development, features and achievements of ancient civilisations in chronological order, from the first civilisation of Ancient Sumer to the Bronze Age civilisation of the Shang dynasty in Ancient China. The children then add to their knowledge of the ancient world by studying the achievements and influence of the Greeks (Year 4 and Year 5).

British History beyond 1066

The Year 6 KRPs allow the children to look at aspects of British history beyond 1066. At the beginning of our Maafa KRP, the children study African kingdoms, including the Kingdom of Benin, to show the richness and diversity of the civilisations in Africa, before learning about the role Britain played in the development, perpetuation and abolition of the slave trade. The Britain at War KRP introduces the role war has played in Britain's history since 1066 and then focuses on the First and Second World Wars as key turning points in British history, which still affect life today.

Concepts

Key concepts such as chronology, cause and effect, similarity and difference, significance, and hierarchy are revisited throughout the KRPs and are developed over time. Our KRPs also develop historical skills based around evidence and historical enquiry.