

History Policy

“A people without knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots”

Marcus Garvey

History threads: Society, Invention, Leadership and economy, Conflict and Religion

History Curriculum Rationale at Dorchester Primary

History shapes who we are. It is in every family story, every building, every painting, map or new archaeological discovery. Understanding history gives us a better understanding of the world, of ourselves, of different places and people.

Through the teaching of history, we develop children to think like historians: how to develop their questioning, use evidence, make interpretations and connections and to understand context. Understanding history is never simple, often controversial and that one view or perspective will never give the whole picture.

Our history curriculum covers a broad spectrum of local, national and worldwide topics within and beyond the National Curriculum. We develop knowledge and understanding, alongside skills of enquiry and interpretation.

We build in exciting first-hand experiences ranging from exploring artifacts, pictures, documents and maps.

We make the most of all the access we have in London to world-class institutions including We actively embrace the local and community history within our diverse communities.

Our curriculum ensures each school has strong local history elements focusing on events, places and people significant to local area and contexts so our children will cover bespoke local history topics such as: Hampton Court palace,.....

Children will:

- Have the opportunity to write in History in a variety of genres
- Use high quality resources to support their learning
- Present their learning to a high standard in History books
- Find best ways for themselves to learn and remember answers to enquiry questions
- Participate in partnered talk during every lesson
- Learn and use key Historical vocabulary correctly
- Work collaboratively with others and communicate effectively

Teachers will:

- Build lessons around the DPS Pillars and the History threads.
- Recap answers to previous enquiry questions at the start of every History lesson
- Follow the schools' progression document.
- Create enquiry questions that are open-ended and promote high quality discussions and debate.
- Share enquiry questions and key vocabulary in advance with families.
- Promote enjoyment and progress through planning exciting, challenging and engaging learning opportunities for all.
- Plan for half termly assessments through regular low stakes quizzing, reference to the learning questions and the KWLW grids as well as clearly planned formative assessment opportunities throughout each lesson.
- Produce clear, up to date Knowledge Organisers, which are shared with the children and referred to constantly.
- Ensure high quality resources and texts are used to support the teaching of History..