



History teaching at Ralph Butterfield Primary School

Intent

History is all around us. The study of history ignites children's curiosity about the past in Britain and the wider world. Through finding out about how and why the world, our country, culture and local community have developed over time, children can understand how the past influences the present.

History enables children to develop a context for their growing sense of identity and a chronological framework for their knowledge of significant events and people. What they learn through history can influence their decisions about personal choices, attitudes and values.

With that in mind, our aim is to fulfil the requirement of the National Curriculum for history; providing a broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum; ensuring the progressive development of historical concepts, knowledge and skills; and for the children to develop a love for history. Furthermore, we aim to inspire in pupils a curiosity and fascination about history that will remain with them for the rest of their lives. "A high-quality history education will help pupils gain a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world" (The 2014 Primary National Curriculum in England).

In addition, given our location close to the city of York, which has many historical links to key periods of British history, we aim to ensure that History teaching at Ralph Butterfield School has a wide application to the immediate locality: teaching the children to enjoy learning about key periods of the past and to have a better understanding of the society in which they live.

The curriculum at Ralph Butterfield is intended to be progressive yet fully inclusive with pupils with special educational needs being supported in their learning through a variety of means (adult support, practical resources, peer support) and the more able pupils facing open ended tasks.

The aims of teaching history in our school are:

- To enable children to be knowledgeable about significant events in British history and in the history of York and to appreciate how things have changed over time
- To inspire pupils' curiosity to discover more about the past and to develop an understanding that enables them to enjoy all that history has to offer
- To develop in children the skills of enquiry, investigation, analysis, evaluation, debate, interpretation, problem solving and presentation so they may successfully continue to develop their own interest in the past
- To inspire children to develop curiosity about the history of their local area, to be knowledgeable about key events, significant buildings and eminent people from the past within their local area and to equip them with the skills to further their knowledge of the local area
- To have some knowledge and understanding of historical development in the wider world
- To help children understand society and their place within it, so that they develop a sense of their cultural heritage