

St Giles Junior School

History Policy

Policy started: Summer 2008

Policy administrator: Miss C Long

"Only a good-for-nothing is not interested in his past." **Sigmund Freud**

What is History?

History is a chronological record of significant events (as affecting a nation or institution) often including an explanation of their causes.

Aims

Allow the children the opportunity to make sense of the past

Give the children the tools to interpret the past for themselves through books, primary and secondary resources and the use of ICT

To bring history alive to encourage the children to develop their inquiring mind.

Objectives

To ensure that pupils develop a more secure chronological understanding of the past

To use practical day-to-day classroom activities that will develop and consolidate children's knowledge of history

To use stories and artefacts from different times and cultures to extend historical knowledge

To ensure that in history, pupils acquire and apply knowledge, skills and understanding in the five main areas of the curriculum:

- chronological understanding
- knowledge and understanding of events, people and changes in the past
- historical interpretation
- historical enquiry
- organisation and communication.

Implementation

History is to be taught in units of work, resulting in one unit of work being taught every term with a 2 hour session allocated each week. (Time of session is at the discretion of the class teacher)

The schemes of work and resources are being adapted from the QCA schemes of work and are a work in progress.

Teaching strategies

A variety of strategies are used to teach history knowledge and skills. Initially, whole class teaching is implemented followed by group or individual differentiated follow-up work.

As the children progress through the school history should be taught with the children doing the investigating and the class teacher offering support and guidance.

Where an opportunity arises, children should visit localities relevant to their study to aid their knowledge and understanding.

Resources

Resources for the majority of the topics are available for use in and around the school.

Many websites are available as a resource to enhance lessons and understanding.

Special needs

All Children have an entitlement to be taught history; those with special educational needs will be catered for via differentiated Programmes of Study and will be suited to individual needs and abilities.

Cross curricular themes

History will be crossed with the curriculum, Literacy, Numeracy, and Geography at relevant times. ICT will be used in the development of history at St Giles.

Assessment and recording

Assessments will take place at the end of every unit. The assessment should allow children to show aspects of the five main areas of the curriculum.

Records of children's assessments should be shown on the provided sheet using the traffic light system.



Has very little understanding of the topic



Has a small amount of understanding of the topic



Has a good understanding of the topic