

Old Dalby Church of England Primary School



History Policy

Approved by:	Teaching Staff
---------------------	----------------

Next review due by:	September 2025
--------------------------------	----------------

**Kind hearts. Open Minds. Courageous Spirits
Together, we will explore life in all its fullness.**

Our Vision

Kind hearts. Open minds. Courageous spirits.
Together, we will explore life in all its fullness.

This a promise that we, as a whole school, will educate children to be accepting, thoughtful and courageous. Our pupils will show kindness and love to everyone around them, our pupils will understand, accept and celebrate diversity, they will recognise injustices and speak up when they see them.

This will be achieved through a curriculum based on a skills progression of our eight Christian values. We will ensure that the pupils build the skills to live our values. Our curriculum will provide knowledge of historical and current events to provide our children with context and understanding of the values. Children will learn to challenge what they see as an injustice and seek to right this. They will be ambitious, have the courage of their convictions and be empathetic to others. Through working closely with the local community and church, we will provide a warm, nurturing environment to foster ambition, curiosity, spirituality and love.

“Let us be concerned for one another, to help one another to show love and to do good.”

Hebrews 10:24

This policy is carried out within the context and spirit of the school’s vision and mission statement. It supports and reinforces the aims of Old Dalby C of E Primary School, valuing all children equally whilst ensuring all children achieve their potential.

We ensure that our school:

- Motivates each child so that they develop intellectually, spiritually physically and morally, within a secure and happy working environment
- Challenges children to stand up and speak out when they see injustice
- Provides work within a broad curriculum to develop lively, open and enquiring minds
- Helps children to acquire knowledge and skills relevant to their needs, laying the foundation for the next phase of their education
- Develops an awareness of self, sensitivity to others and acceptance (not tolerance)
- Offers equal opportunities to all pupils throughout the curriculum
- Increases the children’s understanding of, and concern for, the environment and the wider world
- Identifies and monitors the progress of all pupils, ensuring that all children are enabled to achieve their full potential
- Supports the children in their development of morals and Christian values
- Facilitates the development of independent, motivated learners
- Provides a caring and friendly atmosphere, which fosters respect for each other and individual responsibility.

Let us be concerned for one another, to help one another to show love and to do good.

Hebrews 10:24

At Old Dalby C of E Primary School, we use the concepts of compare, chronology, enquiry, cause and consequence to underpin our planning within History.

The aim of history teaching here at Old Dalby C of E Primary School is to stimulate the children's interest and understanding about the life of people who lived in the past. We teach children a sense of chronology and through this they develop a sense of identity, and a cultural understanding based on their historical heritage. Thus they learn to value their own and other people's cultures in modern multicultural Britain and, by considering how people lived in the past, they are better able to make their own life choices today.

Intent

At Old Dalby C of E, we believe history makes a significant contribution to citizenship education by teaching about how Britain developed as a democratic society. We teach children to understand how events in the past have influenced our lives today; we also teach them to investigate these past events and, by so doing, to develop the skills of enquiry, analysis, interpretation and problem solving. We strive to promote a variety of historical skills, which support the development of knowledge, and skills through enriched cultural capital and the provision of an ambitious body of procedural and semantic knowledge to develop long term memory. We believe that learning is a change in long term memory. We believe children learn best by having opportunities to revisit previous learning. Therefore, we teach history termly, allowing children to build on their previous knowledge so that the children can fully immerse themselves and have opportunities to reflect and build on prior learning. Our long term plan allows each class to develop their prior learning from the previous year.

The objectives of teaching History in our school are:

- To foster in children an interest in the past and to develop an understanding that enables them to enjoy all that history has to offer;
- To enable children to know about significant events in British history and to appreciate how things have changed over time;
- To develop a sense of chronology;
- To know and understand how the British system of democratic government has developed and in so doing, to contribute to a child's citizenship education;
- To understand how Britain is part of a wider European culture, and to study some aspects of European history;
- 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;

Let us be concerned for one another, to help one another to show love and to do good.

Hebrews 10:24

- To develop in children the skills of enquiry, investigation, analysis, evaluation and presentation.
- To communicate historical information in a variety of ways including writing at length

Implementation

Our History curriculum design is based on principles derived from evidence through cognitive science:

- Learning is most effective with spaced repetition.
- Retrieval of previously learnt content is frequent and regular, which increases both storage and retrieval strength.

In addition to the principles, we also understand that learning is invisible in the short term and that sustained mastery takes time.

Our content is subject specific. We make intra-curricular links to strengthen schemas. Reading, writing, speaking and listening skills are further promoted in History.

Skills and Techniques

As well as learning the historical skills, learning vocabulary, dates and facts the children will also learn key skills including:

- Identifying trusted sources
- Using a timeline to understand when key eras or events from history occurred in relation to each other
- Asking perceptive questions
- Critical thinking
- Developing perspective and judgement
- Research

These techniques are repeated throughout the years, so that the children can build upon and refine their skills in each area. These skills are also transferable, meaning our children can apply them to other subject areas and which will stand them in good stead later in life.

In the Early Year Foundation Stage, History makes a significant contribution to developing a child's knowledge and understanding of the world. We do this through activities such as through activities such as finding out and talking about the past and present of their own lives and those of their family, or discovering the meaning of vocabulary ('new' and 'old', for example) in relation to their own lives. This is enhanced

Let us be concerned for one another, to help one another to show love and to do good.

Hebrews 10:24

further, by providing the children with an enabling environment, where children use their own curiosity to explore and investigate the world around them.

Throughout KS1 and KS2 children will have the opportunity to make links with other topics across the curriculum.

In addition to our History lessons, children are given the opportunity to have access to events ran by external companies as well as visits into school from external companies. Children will enjoy school trips off site that will help develop their understanding of a relevant topic.

Please see our Whole School Long Term planning to see what our pupils will be learning each year.

Impact

The intended impact of our History curriculum is that children build knowledge, make connections between this knowledge and use it to explore and create. The children will have a sound understanding of History in the world around them and gain a rich cultural capital. They will be given the opportunity to develop historical skills, which they will continue to develop and practice throughout their whole school journey.

Assessment

Assessment judgements are informed by a pupil's progress against the objectives laid down in the school's curriculum document. We appreciate that in EYFS and Key Stage 1 the children will have a smaller general knowledge base to draw upon and in key stage 2 we will then expect to see them making more links to prior knowledge, comparing and contrasting as well as evaluating what they have learned.

Teachers will make a judgement of WTS (working towards the expected standard), EXP (Working at the expected standard) or GDS (working at greater depth). Judgements can be based on written work, formal and informal observations, and discussion.

Monitoring

Unit plans, knowledge organisers and medium term plans are monitored by SLT with responsibility for the curriculum. Curriculum coverage, including History, is included in the termly curriculum catch up conversations.

Community

Old Dalby C of E Primary School is proud of our community links, with the value woven through our curriculum. When possible, we like to invite members of our local community to share their experiences and knowledge by visiting classes.

Resources

Useful Websites

[History Today](#)

[National Archives](#)

[Teaching History with 100 objects](#)

Cultural Capital

Children will learn about areas of significant historical interest within their local area. In addition, they will learn about current topical historical events such as changes within the monarchy and important sporting events.

They will also experience the following:

- Possible trips and visits within the local area
- Workshops with specialist historians.
- Opportunities to explore artefacts from a specific period of history.
- Learning about and celebrating historical events such as Bonfire Night and St. George's Day
- Learning about local history through our whole school topic, 'Dig'.