

History Curriculum



Intent

At Beccles Primary Academy, we believe that history lessons should inspire children to want to know more about the past and to think and act as historians.

By linking learning to a range of themes, children have the opportunity to investigate the past, understand chronology and apply critical thinking skills to different scenarios. By the children building an overview of Britain's past as well as that of the wider world, they are able to make connections and deepen their understanding of historical concepts.

We aim to develop children's historical curiosity by encouraging them to ask why and how, alongside when and what.

Implementation

History at Beccles Primary Academy, is taught thematically across all key stages.

Each year group follows a key line of enquiry following patterns of human behaviour and the impact of this over time. For example, a line of enquiry followed in Year 5 is how have humans survived? The children will investigate how the Ancient Egyptians developed agriculture and farming and then researched how the Tudors coped with changing monarchs.

UK history is taught chronologically throughout Key Stage 2 with links to local study, so the children have a better understanding of the sequence of the historical periods. Specifically chosen aspects of world history are taught alongside the UK chronology so the children can make comparisons following their year group's line of enquiry.

Key Stage 1, through their line of enquiry, focusses on the historical concepts within living memory and beyond. This is achieved through studying significant people, events and places.

In Early Years, History is encompassed through the Understanding of the world, combining People and Communities, The World and Technology. Children begin and continue to develop an understanding of History through theme-based learning. In addition, we encourage children to reflect on their own special events and express their own past experiences through imaginative play.

Impact

By the time children leave Beccles Primary Academy they should be able to:

- Provide developed explanations drawing on evidence and remembered knowledge.
- Understand abstract historical concepts such as poverty, empire and civilisation.
- Understand the historical context of key events and be able to place these within a chronological timeframe.

We measure the effectiveness and impact of our History Curriculum in a variety of ways:

- Summative assessment – termly assessments take place to track pupils' progress against age related expectations for History.
- Leaders' monitoring – lesson observations; learning walks; book scrutiny, pupil voice.
- Children in the foundation stage are assessed within the EYFS framework and their progress tracked using Tapestry observations.
- Formative assessment – assessment for learning takes place daily and is used to identify individual needs and to inform future planning.