



History



Intent | Implementation | Impact

Curriculum Intent

At Owslebury Primary School, our History curriculum is ambitious and inclusive, designed to inspire pupils' curiosity about the past and develop a deep understanding of how the lives of people and events from different periods have shaped the world we live in today. We aim to provide pupils with a coherent and chronological understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world, while making meaningful links to their local area and heritage.

Our curriculum enables pupils to develop a strong sense of identity and place by exploring the complexity of people's lives, the diversity of societies and the relationships between different groups throughout history. By understanding how and why societies have changed over time, pupils are supported to make sense of the present and reflect thoughtfully on their own lives.

History at Owslebury is structured to develop both substantive knowledge (the facts, concepts and content of history) and disciplinary knowledge (how historians investigate the past, use evidence and construct interpretations).

Knowledge, skills and subject-specific vocabulary are carefully sequenced from Early Years through to the end of Key Stage 2, ensuring progression and depth over time.

We intend for all pupils to:

- Gain a coherent, chronological knowledge of British, local and world history
- Develop curiosity and enthusiasm for learning about the past
- Ask perceptive historical questions and think critically about evidence
- Understand key historical concepts such as chronology, change and continuity, cause and consequence, significance and interpretation
- Recognise the diversity and complexity of past societies and develop perspective and judgement
- Be well prepared for the next stage of their education with secure historical understanding and enquiry skills

Curriculum Implementation

History at Owslebury Primary School is taught in line with the National Curriculum and is carefully mapped to ensure coverage, coherence and progression across all year groups. Pupils are encouraged to think and work as historians through an enquiry-led approach, using a wide range of historical sources, artefacts and experiences to deepen understanding of the past. Chronology is taught explicitly and revisited regularly, enabling pupils to build a clear and coherent narrative of history over time. Children are taught to understand that historical periods are not always linear and that different periods can overlap. Key historical concepts, such as change and continuity, cause and consequence, and significance, are revisited across topics to deepen understanding.

In Key Stage 1, pupils develop an awareness of the past through the study of significant individuals, events and changes within and beyond living memory, including those with local, national and global significance. In Key Stage 2, pupils build on this foundation to develop a secure understanding of local, British and world history, making connections and drawing contrasts across different periods and societies.

Pupils are taught to recognise that historical events can be interpreted in different ways. Through focused enquiry questions, pupils develop both substantive and disciplinary knowledge, learning how to evaluate sources, weigh evidence and form balanced judgements.

History learning is enriched through the study of artefacts, themed days, visits to sites of historical significance and cross-curricular links, particularly with English and the arts. Subject-specific vocabulary is modelled and explicitly taught, enabling pupils to communicate their ideas clearly and accurately.

Assessment is ongoing and takes place through discussion, observation, written outcomes and pupil voice.

Curriculum Impact

By the time pupils leave Owslebury Primary School, they will have developed a secure and coherent understanding of key periods of history and how these connect to form a broader historical narrative. Pupils will be able to recall and apply historical knowledge, use appropriate vocabulary, and demonstrate an understanding of key concepts such as change, cause, significance and interpretation.

Pupils are confident in asking questions, evaluating evidence and forming reasoned and balanced judgements about the past. They can explain how historical events have shaped the world today and show respect for the diversity and complexity of past societies.

The impact of our History curriculum is evident in the quality of pupils' work, their ability to talk knowledgeably and thoughtfully about historical learning, and their enthusiasm for the subject. Pupils leave Owslebury as curious, reflective and motivated learners who are well prepared for the next stage of their education and inspired to continue exploring and questioning the world around them.