

Progression of Skills and Knowledge for History

Chronological Understanding

Sequencing, events, stories, pictures and periods over time to show how different times relate to each other and contribute to a coherent understanding of the past. We don't necessarily teach topics in chronological order, however, we do relate the topics we teach to their chronological context.

EYFS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Children talk about	- Sequence events in	- Sequence artefacts	- Place the time	- Place events	- Know and sequence	- Place current
past and present in	their life.	closer together in	studied on a time	from	key events of time	study
their own lives and	- Sequence 3 or 4	time-check with	line.	the period studied	studied.	on time line in
in the lives of family	artefacts from	reference book.	- Use dates and	on	- Use relevant terms	relation to other
members.	distinctly different	- Sequence	terms related to the	a time line.	and period labels.	studies.
	periods of time.	photographs etc.	topic of study and	- Understand	- Make comparisons	- Use relevant
	 Match objects to 	- Describe memories	passing of time.	historical terms	between different	dates
	people of different	of key events in life.	- Sequence several	such	time periods in the	and terms
	ages.		events or artefacts.	as BCE and CE.	past.	- Sequence up to
		Children at Greater		- Use terms		10 events on a
	Children at Greater	Depth will:	Children at Greater	related to the	Children at Greater	time line.
	Depth will:	Give valid	Depth will:	time period and	Depth will:	
	Sequence	explanations for the	Describe the main	begin to date	Independently	Children at
	independently on an	sequence of objects	context of particular	events.	sequence key events,	Greater
	annotated timeline	or events on	themes, societies,		objects, themes,	Depth will:
	a number of objects	timelines or	people and events	Children at	societies and people	Show detailed
	or events.	narratives.	including some	Greater	in topics covered	awareness of the
			explanation.	Depth will:	using dates, period	themes, event,
				Sequence	labels and terms	societies and
				accurately	accurately.	people covered
				the key events,		across Key Stage
				themes, societies		Two topics.
				and people within		
				and across topics		
				confidently, using		
				key dates and		
				prior knowledge		
				to explain		
				chronological		
				choices.		



Related National	Pupils should develop an awareness of the	Pupils should continue to develop a chronologically secure knowledge and understanding of		
Curriculum	past, using common words and phrases	British, local and world history, establishing clear narratives within and across the periods		
Objectives in italics:	relating to the passing of time. They should	they study. They should note connections, contrasts and trends over time and develop the		
	know where the people and events they study	appropriate use of historical terms.		
	fit within a chronological framework and			
	identify similarities and differences between			
	ways of life in different periods.			

Range and Depth of Historical Knowledge					
Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
- Recognise the	- Recognise why	- Find out and	- Use evidence	- Study different aspects of different	- Find out about beliefs,
difference between	people did things,	compare	when	people e.g. differences between	behaviour and
past and present in	why events	the everyday lives of	discussing the	male and female/rich or poor life	characteristics of people,
their own	happened and what	people in time	everyday	experiences.	recognising that not
and others' lives.	happened as a result.	studied	life of people in	- Examine causes and results of great	everyone shares the
- They know and	- Identify differences	with their own lives	time	events and the impact on	same views and feelings.
recount	between ways of life	today.	studied.	people.	- Explain a past event in
episodes from	at different times.	- Understand and	- Look for links	- Compare life in 'early' and 'late'	terms of cause and
stories		identify	and	parts of the time period.	effect, using evidence to
about the past.	Children at Greater	reasons for and the	effects in time	- Compare an aspect of	support and illustrate.
	Depth will:	results of their	studied.	life with the same aspect	- Know key dates,
Children at Greater	Describe	actions.	- Offer a	in another time period.	characters and events of
Depth will:	independently		reasonable		time studied.
Identify	and accurately	Children at Greater	explanation for	Children at Greater	
independently a	similarities and	Depth will:	some	Depth will:	Children at Greater
range of similarities,	differences, or valid	Explain why a	events.	Compare the significance	Depth will:
differences or	causes and effects	historical		of events, development	Independently comment
relevant	relating to the events	topic, event or	Children at	and people across topics	on the different types of
causes and effects	covered, both within	person	Greater	and time periods.	cause and effects for
within	and across time	was distinctive or	Depth will:		most of the events
a specific time	periods and	significant.	Explain with		covered, including long
period.	topics.	-	confidence		and short term factors.
			the significance of		
			particular causes		
			and		
			effects for key		



		events.			
Pupils will learn about – changes in living memory, events beyond living		All pupils will know and understand the history of these islands as a coherent, chronological			
memory that are significant nationally or globally, the lives of		narrative, from the earliest times to the present day: how people's lives have shaped this			
significant individuals in the past who have contributed to national and		nation and how Britain	has influenced and been influenced by tl	ne wider world. Pupils will	
international achievements and significant historic	cal events, people	know and understand significant aspects of the history of the wider world: the nature of			
and places in their own locality.		ancient civilisations; the expansion and dissolution of empires; characteristic features of			
		past non-European soci	eties.		

Historical Enquiry					
Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
- Find answers to	- Use a source	- Use a range of	- Use evidence to	- Begin to identify primary and	- Recognise primary and
simple questions	- Observe or handle	sources to find out	build up a picture	secondary sources.	secondary sources.
about the past from	sources to answer	about a period of	of a past event.	- Use evidence to build up a picture	- Use a range of sources
sources of	questions about the	time.	- Ask a variety of	of a past event.	to find out about an
information e.g.	past on the basis of	- Select and record	questions.	- Select relevant sections of	aspect of time past.
artefacts.	simple observations.	relevant	- Use the library	information.	- Suggest omissions and
		information.	and internet for	- Use the library and internet for	the means of finding out
Children at Greater	Children at Greater	- Begin to use the	research.	research with increasing confidence.	this information.
Depth will:	Depth will:	library and internet	- Choose relevant		- Bring knowledge
Plan questions and	Pose independently a	for research.	material to	Children at Greater Depth will:	gathered from several
produce answers to	series of valid		present a picture	Independently plan their own	sources together in a
a few historical	questions for	Children at Greater	of one aspect of	enquiry towards a particular topic.	fluent account.
enquiries.	different enquiries	Depth will:	life in a time		
	and produce	Independently	period.		Children at Greater
	effective responses	devise historical			Depth will:
	using appropriate	enquiries to find	Children at		Plan and produce quality
	vocabulary	information about a	Greater Depth		responses to a wide
	confidently.	set topic of research.	will:		range of historical
			Use prior		enquiries requiring the
			historical		use of complex sources.
			knowledge to		
			support enquiries		
			directed towards		
			a particular topic.		



All pupils should understand some of the ways in which we find out about the past and identify different ways in which it is represented.

All pupils should understand historical concepts such as continuity and change, cause and consequence, similarity, difference and significance, and use them to make connections, draw contrasts, analyse trends, frame historically valid questions and create their own structured accounts, including written narratives and analyses.

Historical Terms					
KS1	Lower KS2	Upper KS2			
Develop, the use a wide vocabulary of historical terms, such as: a long time ago, recently, when my were younger, years, decades, centuries etc.	Develop use of appropriate subject terminology, such as: empire, civilisation, monarch etc.	Record knowledge and understanding in a variety of ways, using dates and key terms appropriately.			

Interpreting History						
Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	
- Use stories to	- Compare 2 version	- Identify and give	- Begin to evaluate	- Compare accounts of events from	- Link sources and work	
encourage children	of a past event.	reasons for different	the usefulness of	different sources - fact or fiction?	out how conclusions	
to distinguish	- Compare pictures	ways the past is	different sources.	- Offer some reasons for different	were arrived at.	
between fact and	or photographs of	represented.	- Use sources of	versions of events.	- Consider ways of	
fiction.	people or events in	- Compare different	information and		checking the accuracy of	
- Compare adults	the past.	versions of the same	historical	Children at Greater Depth will:	interpretations –	
talking about the	- Discuss reliability of	story from different	knowledge to	Explain the nature and reasons for	fact/fiction or opinion?	
past and how	photos/accounts/sto	sources and discuss	support new	different interpretations in a range	- Be aware that different	
reliable are their	ries.	why they might be	information learnt.	of topics.	evidence will lead to	
memories?		different.			different conclusions.	
	Children at Greater		Children at Greater		- Confidently use the	
Children at Greater	Depth will:	Children at Greater	Depth will:		library and internet.	
Depth will:	Critically evaluate	Depth will:	Comment on and			
Select information	the usefulness of	Comment on the	question the		Children at Greater	
independently from	sources and parts of	usefulness and	usefulness and		Depth will:	
several different	sources to answer	reliability of a range	reliability of a range		Independently evaluate a	
types of source to	historical questions.	of sources for	of sources and		range of sources for	
answer historical		particular enquiries.	begin to		historical enquiries	
questions.			understand why		considering factors such	
			interpretations		as purpose, audience,	



	might be different.	accuracy, reliability and how the source was compiled.
Pupils should ask and answer questions, choosing and using parts of stories and other sources to show that they know and understand key features of the past.	Pupils should understand the methods of historic rigorously to make historical claims, and discern interpretations of the past have been constructe responses that involve thoughtful selection and information.	how and why contrasting arguments and ed. They should construct informed