



History at Chilham St Mary's

Intent

At Chilham St Mary's CE Primary School, our intent is to provide a high-quality and diverse History education that inspires a lifelong love of learning and discovery. We aim to ensure that every individual develops the confidence to achieve and the enthusiasm to think critically about the past. Through interactive, stimulating lessons, as well as workshops and field trips, children are encouraged to bring History to life and understand their place within the wider world.

Our curriculum fosters an enquiry-based approach, empowering pupils to investigate and interpret a range of historical evidence and sources. By nurturing both collaborative and independent learning, we help children to build firm foundations for understanding chronology — from living memory to the earliest human civilisations. Pupils are encouraged to take thoughtful risks in their thinking, explore multiple perspectives, and reflect on how actions and decisions have shaped societies throughout time. In doing so, they learn about cause and consequence, developing a deep appreciation of how the past influences the present and future, while supporting all learners in reaching their full potential.

Implementation

Our History curriculum has been carefully designed with the National Curriculum at its core, ensuring progression in both historical knowledge and disciplinary skills. Children's learning is organised into six main areas:

- Historical Interpretations
- Historical Investigations
- Chronological Understanding
- Knowledge and Understanding of Events and People in the Past
- Presenting, Organising, and Communicating Ideas About the Past
- Substantive Concepts and Historical Vocabulary

In addition, pupils develop their understanding through the following disciplinary concepts:

- Continuity and Change
- Cause and Consequence
- Similarity and Difference
- Historical Significance

Impact

The impact of our History curriculum is evident in the confidence, curiosity, and enthusiasm with which our children approach their learning. Through our diverse and inclusive provision, every individual is supported to develop a secure understanding of the past and its influence on the wider world, building firm foundations for future study and personal growth.

Pupils demonstrate a genuine love for History, showing the confidence to achieve as they discuss, debate, and question historical events and perspectives. Their enquiry skills enable them to think critically and draw informed conclusions based on evidence. Through collaborative projects and independent research, they develop resilience, creativity, and the ability to communicate their ideas effectively.

Our children are encouraged to be reflective and courageous learners, willing to engage in thoughtful risk taking as they explore complex themes and challenge their own assumptions. As a result, they leave Chilham St Mary's as confident young historians who understand the significance of history in shaping both their own identities and the world around them. They are equipped with the knowledge, empathy, and curiosity to continue reaching their full potential as responsible global citizens.