



# **History Policy**

Agreed at (please indicate with a \*):

- Full Governing Body Meeting \_\_\_\_\_
- Children and Learning Committee Meeting \_\_\_\_\_\*
- Resources Committee Meeting \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 29.6.23

## History Policy

*“The more you know about the past, the better prepared you are for the future.”*

Theodore Roosevelt

### 1. What is the vision for History at Stamford Green?

It is our vision that our children:

- Become interested in the past by developing a detailed, coherent understanding of a range of different periods from British history, including events from the local area, and the wider world
- Develop an understanding of chronology and know how different period of time in history are related
- Show an understanding of historical concepts such as monarchy, empire, civilisations, making connections with different periods of time
- Behave like a historian, using historical enquiry to stimulate curiosity, analyse sources of evidence and draw conclusions about events of the past
- Speak like a historian, developing a wide vocabulary to discuss the past

### 2. Our History curriculum is brought to life by our seven commitments:

#### HAPPINESS

Through our history curriculum, we want our children to develop a lifelong passion for history and our local stories. Our history lessons will be interesting and enjoyable for children, encouraging them to see themselves as historians. We will endeavour to make memorable learning experiences for our children, allowing them to engage further with the subject. Our history curriculum allows our children to have a good understanding of who we are and know about the achievements and experiences of our ancestors.

#### INSPIRING

We will inspire the children through our engaging and exciting curriculum. The children will feel inspired by learning about a range of different people from the past and by knowing about the experiences from different periods of time. Our children will be inspired by knowing that their lives and rights have been affected by the actions of people in the past e.g. knowing about the difference that the suffragettes made for the vote for women. In turn, children will understand how their actions will affect future generations.

#### LEARNING

Our approach to learning history is for children to have a well-rounded view about a range of time periods and will know that history is not just about learning facts about the past. They will learn and develop their historical skills, which will be weaved throughout all lessons, rather than learning in isolation. We will embrace the use of texts to enhance understanding of different time periods and places around the world. Using stories enables the children to visualise and imagine what life was like for different individuals.

#### TOGETHERNESS

Our history curriculum will allow children to feel part of their own history. Their deepening knowledge of British history will ensure that they understand about the people and communities that lived before them and their influence on life as it is today. Children will understand different groups in society and the contributions they have made.

#### VALUES

Throughout our history curriculum are key historical concepts, which link to the British Values such as democracy, rule of law and tolerance which contribute to the children showing an understanding of how we should live as citizens. In addition, our twenty two school values will also

be evident and in action. Children will learn empathy as they learn about historical events from the perspective of others and will be respectful on the past. In addition, children will learn how values have changed over time and how they have shaped society today.

### AMBITION

We are ambitious for the children so that they see themselves processing the skills and being equipped to be historians. Children will ask questions, look at facts and deduce conclusions about the past. Children will understand what can be achieved by learning from people in the past. In addition, we are ambitious for staff too and ensure that our Subject Leader finds opportunities for teachers' continuing professional development. We are ambitious with ensuring that children understand the concept of chronology and know where their learning fits in with other time periods in their previous learning.

### ACHIEVEMENT

We are aspirational for all children to leave Stamford Green to an accomplished standard in history, knowing and utilising a range of skills and drawing on a vast knowledge about the past. We ensure that their knowledge of historical vocabulary is prioritised to enable the children to speak like a historian and understand concepts such as conflict, democracy and empire.

### 3. By the end of Year 6 at Stamford Green, our children will...

Behaviours	Through the skills that the children have learnt and developed during their time at Stamford Green, the children will behave like historians. They will ask questions and be curious about the past. They will demonstrate passion about our local stories and will allow their love of history to foster traits such as empathy and open mindedness in everyday life. The children will also consider how our behaviour might be judged in the future.
Attitudes	The children will understand and appreciate the contributions made by all levels of society in the past. In addition, they will also understand and appreciate the contributions that other civilisations have made. They will see British and world problems through the prism of history to gain insight and perspective.
Skills	Our curriculum enables the children to build on their historical enquiry skills. They will identify which sources of evidence would be useful to solve a problem or question. They will know and understand how sources might be biased, and what implications this might have. The children will understand how historians approach questions and are able to emulate this themselves.
Knowledge	Our well planned curriculum allows the children to identify and discuss events that have been a turning point in world and British history. The children will know about the significant of our local history and will demonstrate an understanding of the concept of chronology. They will draw on their knowledge of other national curriculum subjects to understand how other subjects support history e.g. how did the geography of Britain, influence Hitler's invasion plans? The children will know about contrasting significant individuals who have made a difference to life in Britain.
Experiences	The children will have experienced a number of special curriculum days as part of our Opportunities and Thrive Experiences such as WWII Evacuee Day and Roman Day to enable them to have a greater feel of what life was like during that period of time. The children will have enjoyed oral history from a range of experts and volunteers, to deepen their knowledge further. In addition, children will have participated in a range of high-quality educational visits to significant historical places to enhance their understanding and knowledge.
Technology	Technology will be used to support teaching and learning of history. Children will know about and be aware of quality online sources of historical knowledge e.g. census information, historical maps and commonwealth war graves

	information. They will also be aware of the limitations of looking at historical information, in terms of accuracy.
<b>Sustained</b>	Our curriculum and approach to teaching history will help to foster an interest and love for the subject and children will be keen to develop this further at secondary school. They will understand that our local stories won't survive if we don't learn about them and retell them. The children will know how to find out more about historical interests.

#### **4. Feedback and Assessment**

- a) For further information about how the school provides feedback to the children and how teachers make assessments about a child's learning, please refer to the Assessment (including marking and feedback) policy.

#### **5. Inclusion**

- a) Learning opportunities will be available to every child, regardless of race, gender, class or ability. Pupils will be encouraged to value social and cultural diversity through their learning. They will listen to, and participate in a variety of experiences in a positive and constructive manner.
- b) We recognise that in all classes, children have a wide range of abilities and so therefore we seek to provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the learning to the ability of the child.
- c) For further information, please refer to our Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) policy and our Teaching and Learning policy.

#### **6. Subject Organisation**

- a) The school operates a two-week timetable for Years 1 to 6 and history will be taught every fortnight. The use of a two-week timetable ensures that the children are able to develop their history skills and knowledge on a regular basis, building on previous learning for an extended time. The regular teaching of history on a fortnightly basis allows for spaced retrieval and purposeful practice.
- b) History is planned through the use of an enquiry question, where all of the learning through the term is focused towards the children developing the skills and knowledge to be able to answer the enquiry question. For further detail, please refer to the History Compendium.

#### **7. Monitoring and Evaluation**

- a) The work of the History subject leader involves ensuring that the curriculum is well planned, being informed about current developments in this area and providing a strategic lead and direction for the subject in the school.