

## History – Intent, Implementation and Impact

**“A generation which ignores history has no past and no future.”**

**Robert A Heinlein**

### History – Intent

At Thwaites School we offer a coherently planned sequence of lessons progressively covering the skills and concepts required in the National Curriculum. We aim to develop and revisit children’s understanding of substantive concepts. Historical enquiry skills are built upon progressively throughout the units and include: Historical Interpretations; Historical Investigations; Chronological Understanding; Knowledge and Understanding of Events and People in the Past; Presenting, Organising and Communicating; and Substantive Concepts and Historical Vocabulary. In addition to this, progression of disciplinary concepts are also embedded and include: Continuity and Change; Cause and Consequence; Similarities and Differences; and Historical Significance. Due to the difficulty of planning a curriculum for mixed-aged classes it has not been possible to learn history in chronological order, however we have approached this challenge creatively and address it proactively in the way that we teach history to ensure learners understand where on the timeline significant historical periods sit so that deep understanding is developed around chronology and the passing of time. Through repeated visits to a historical timeline, children, over the course of their academic career here at Thwaites School, build up a vividly clear picture of what happened when regarding historically significant events, eras and people. We aim to deliver history in a way that brings the past to life, developing learners who are engaged and excited to learn about what came before them.

### History – Implementation

In order for children to know more and remember more in each area of history studied, lessons are structured so that prior learning is always considered and opportunities for revision and retrieval of key dates, events and facts are built into lessons. Lessons incorporate engaging retrieval quizzes which provide great opportunities to help make the key knowledge stick. This all allows for revision to become part of good practice and ultimately helps build a depth to children’s historical understanding. Through revisiting and consolidating skills, children build on prior knowledge alongside introducing new skills and challenge. Across both key stages, we revisit two Golden Threads, ‘Crime and Punishment’ and ‘Transport’ allowing children to develop a deep knowledge

and understanding of these historical themes Revision and introduction of key vocabulary is built into each lesson. This vocabulary is then included in knowledge organisers, display materials and additional resources to ensure that children are allowed opportunities to repeat and revise this knowledge. Through these lessons, we intend to inspire pupils to develop a love of history and see how it has shaped the world they live in. It is important for children to understand that the past influences the present and the future. We want to encourage children to learn that they can't change history but what they can do is learn about it and learn from it then use this information to help shape a better future.

### History - Impact

Across Thwaites School a consistent approach to the teaching of history ensures historical technical vocabulary is displayed, spoken and used by all learners. We want to ensure that history is loved by pupils across school, therefore encouraging them to want to continue building on this wealth of historical knowledge and understanding, now and in the future. Children at Thwaites School will have developed a keen, rich understanding of the time that has passed before them, from modern history to pre-history and will be able to discuss this in detail. They will understand key historical events, eras and people that have shaped the world they live in locally, nationally and globally. Children will also be able to apply their historical knowledge across the curriculum, explaining how geography, art, design and technology, etc. have changed over time. This deep understanding of history prepares them for the future ahead.

