



**Godmanchester
Bridge Academy**

History Policy - January 2018

Together We

Inspire Enjoy Achieve

Introduction

At Godmanchester Bridge Academy we believe that history is an essential part of the curriculum.

Aims

The History Curriculum aims to:

- enable the children to develop a sense of identity within our society through learning about the historical development of the British Isles, Europe and the World
- arouse the children's interest in the past
- help our children to develop an interest in the past through the interpretation of and the understanding of events
- to understand the present from the study of the past and be able to observe similarities and differences between the two
- develop the ability to communicate historical knowledge in oral, written and visual forms, using appropriate vocabulary and techniques

Specifically, history aims to develop the children's skills through:

- developing their historical enquiry; for example using sources
- developing a range of interpretations of history; for example comparing different versions of past events
- developing a range and depth of historical knowledge; for example recognising why people did things and what happened as a result
- their knowledge and understanding of chronological events; for example sequencing events and artefacts
- organisation and communication; for example using ICT to research

Thematic Approach

At Godmanchester Bridge Academy, our curriculum design gives each year group the opportunity to cover a broad range of themes and subjects. Themes last approximately one half term depending on the amount of content and the children's interests. In some cases, projects may be taught for a shorter period, for example during a science or art week.

Our history curriculum is broad, balanced and meets the requirements of the national curriculum. It has a project-based, thematic approach and provides children with a range of rich and memorable learning experiences. Some projects have a history focus, and others will have less of a historic emphasis.

Early Learning Goals

In Foundation, as part of the 'Understanding of the World' strand, the children are given the opportunity to look closely at:

- similarities, differences, patterns and changes
- past, present and the future.
- They are encouraged to ask questions about why things happened and to discover about their own place in history (their family). They begin to learn about this through acknowledging older, young and new people in their families.
- This is achieved through day to day discussions, play and through topic work.

Key Stage 1 Objectives

Detailed objectives for each year group's History curriculum are to be found in their schemes of work. Underpinning these are the key teaching objectives of History teaching. KS1 children should be given opportunities:

- to learn about changes within living memory. Where appropriate, these should be used to reveal aspects of change in national life

- to learn about events beyond living memory that are significant nationally or globally
- to learn about the lives of significant individuals in the past who have contributed to national and international achievements. Some should be used to compare aspects of life in different periods.
- to learn about significant historical events, people and places in their own locality.
- to develop an awareness of the past, using common words and phrases relating to the passing of time.
- to use a wide vocabulary of everyday historical terms.
- to know where the people and events they study fit within a chronological framework and identify similarities and differences between ways of life in different periods.
- to ask and answer questions, choosing and using parts of stories and other sources to show that they know and understand key features of events.
- to understand some of the ways in which we find out about the past and identify different ways in which it is represented.

Key Stage 2 Objectives

Detailed objectives for each year group's History curriculum are to be found in their schemes of work. Underpinning these are the key teaching objectives of History teaching. KS2 children should be given opportunities:

- to note connections, contrasts and trends over time and develop the appropriate use of historical terms.
- to regularly address and sometimes devise historically valid questions about change, cause, similarity and difference, and significance.
- to construct informed responses that involve thoughtful selection and organisation of relevant historical information.
- to understand how our knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources.

Health and Safety

Health and safety issues are very important and relevant to historical visits and handling of artefacts, it is important that all staff adhere to the Policy for the Management of Educational Visits and Learning Outside the Classroom, especially regarding staff/pupil ratio, supervision in older buildings etc. Risk Assessments are carefully considered prior to visits and evaluated on return.

Equal Opportunities and Inclusion

As a school we aim to give all pupils an equal opportunity of receiving a high quality history education, regardless of physical or mental ability, race, gender or social circumstances.

We aim to:

- set suitable learning challenges to suit pupil's abilities
- respond to pupil's diverse learning needs
- overcome potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals

- ensure all pupils can be included safely in accessing the curriculum and visits
- be aware and plan for a range of problems that pupils might encounter on visits e.g. mobility, illness, environmental – asthma etc.
- be aware of visual difficulties of some pupils – notably colour blindness.
- show sensitivity when pupil’s relatives are discussed (set into chronology).

Assessment and Recording

Assessment in history will be made continuously through a variety of assessment techniques built into the learning projects.

Pupil’s individual progress will be reported to parents in the end of school year report.

At Godmanchester Bridge Academy, we will respond to pupils’ work by:

- Checking that the children have understood the learning objectives
- Checking that the children know how/when they have achieved them
- Encouraging them to identify, and subsequently work to, agreed success criteria (at an age appropriate level)
- Observing the children at work, listening and discussing with them
- Asking pupils to comment/reflect upon their progress; offering constructive comments on the progress made
- Marking and annotating work in line with the school’s Marking Policy and providing opportunities for children to respond to the comments made on their own work

Community Links

Godmanchester Bridge Academy has close links with its community and should be alert to opportunities to develop links within the locality. Visitors and parents are encouraged to participate wherever possible and assist on visits.

Subject Development

The History Coordinator is responsible for supporting colleagues in the teaching of History providing a strategic lead and direction for the subject in school. The coordinator is also responsible for evaluating strengths and weaknesses in the subject and identifying areas for improvement and development.

Policy Review

This policy has been produced collaboratively and is a reflection of the shared values of the staff. It will be implemented during the spring term of 2018. It will be reviewed every two years; or earlier if there are significant changes. In the first instance this will be in the spring term 2020. The learning projects are continuously reviewed and modified as appropriate.

January 2018

Policy Details	Date	Name
Policy approved by Senior Management:	Feb 2018	Claire Wood
Policy approved by Senior Governor:	Feb 2018	Caroline Crowther-Light

Date of next review: **January 2020**

Policy Section: Section 1A – Curriculum Policies (Pupils)

Policy reference: **GBA – 1A/ 06 HT**