

## Intent

History can mean two things- the past and the study of the past. At Culcheth Primary we believe the past influences all aspects of our lives. It has shaped the communities we are part of and enables us to make sense of the world we live in. Culcheth Primary school children derive from a mixed demographic and a range of social experiences. Therefore, it is our intention that no child should be disadvantaged by their background. The history curriculum at Culcheth Primary makes full use of resources within the immediate and wider local area enabling children to develop a deep understanding of the rich history of their locality.

Topics are informed by the national curriculum and are taught chronologically in Key stage 2 to embed children's understanding of events in time, whilst still covering a breadth of time periods. Our aim is that the methods used in the study of History will help children appreciate how past events and actions have influenced their present lives. The history curriculum at Culcheth Primary is carefully planned and structured to ensure that current learning is linked to previous learning, from Reception to Year 6. The previous years floor books are passed on to the next year group for reference and to build an understanding as to how Historical periods overlap and compare.

## Implementation

Our whole school approach to the teaching and learning of history links strongly with the school motto of 'Where Learning is Fun' and involves the following;

History is taught half termly, focussing on a particular historical theme, which is planned by the class teacher often with a project based approach allowing children to make links with other curriculum areas.

- Through careful planning of lessons, children's natural curiosity is fostered as they are given the opportunity to ask their own questions and use their developing historical skills to research their answers. Teachers plan engaging lessons which allow pupils to focus on developing their historical knowledge and concepts, using a variety of resources. Visits to historical sites and immersive days in school, aid the understanding of a particular period in time. These are purposeful and link with the knowledge being taught in class whilst also exposing disadvantaged pupils to museums, historical sites and rich vocabulary. Teachers use precise questioning in class to inform gaps in knowledge and skills. This allows misconceptions to be quickly identified and addressed.

In Reception the focus is on children's personal history. We aim to develop the children's concepts of time, place, awareness of their own environment and family. The subject is taught discretely within class topics. Once children enter Year 1 they continue to build upon the vocabulary used to understand the past, learning about history within our time. Initially taught discretely by the end of Year 1 the subject is taught explicitly in line with the rest of the school. Within Year 2 pupils begin to look at history beyond our time making links with the learning in Reception and Year 1. Learning is taught explicitly around a topic/theme. Once in Key stage 2 themes are taught chronologically starting with Ancient civilisations abroad and in the UK and moving to modern periods of History which are significant to our area. These are taught, half termly alternating with Geography topics. This helps to embed chronological understanding between time periods.

Children's work is displayed in a variety of ways: individual history books and class floor books. This approach enables pupils to make links between previously taught topics in an imaginative and creative way and develops richer question based practice for their work and historical discovery. Every class from Year2 is implementing this effective method. Year 1, display their work in class floor books and Reception use the Tapestry app to capture learning.

### Impact

The history curriculum approach at Culcheth Primary results in a fun, inviting, high-quality history education that provides children with the concepts and knowledge for understanding the modern world around them. Regular learning outside the classroom is embedded throughout the history curriculum. Through various workshops, trips and interactions with experts, children have the understanding that history has changed our lives and how it has impacted our local area. Children at Culcheth Primary enjoy history and this results in motivated learners with good historical understanding.