

Green Gates Academy
History Curriculum Intent

Curriculum Intentions

At Green Gates Academy, our motto is 'Strive, Believe and Achieve'. This is the golden thread that connects all aspects of our curriculum and ethos together. We aim for all children to 'strive' to be the best they can be, setting high standards and expectations. We encourage all children to 'believe' that anything is possible through hard work and determination. Most importantly, we support all children to 'achieve' their personal best, making small, continuous steps of progress throughout their learning in order for them to flourish into confident, thriving individuals.

Using the aims and objectives of the National Curriculum and our curriculum skills progression document, all our pupils should develop a natural curiosity of the world around them, its history and cultures. It should help them to think critically, developing their own perspective judgement. We aim for the children to understand that history as a subject teaches them 'the story of the people in the past', and that history continues to build and shape our lives in the future.

Through the development of our curriculum, children can build upon skills and knowledge needed over time. This allows core substantive and disciplinary knowledge to be instilled from the earliest opportunity, strengthening foundational understanding, and allowing for strong opportunities for progression year on year. It will also develop knowledge and skills that are transferable to other curriculum areas, which can and are used to promote their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development (SMSC). Children will explore key SMSC themes such as right and wrong; what if questions, social structures and make visit to cultural historic sights. British values also align with our SMSC objectives by celebrating important dates and events in British history such as Remembrance Day or Bonfire Night; exploring how democracy has changed throughout history or understanding how people from different historical periods had similar or different religious beliefs.

Curriculum in History will also provide opportunities and references to promote the rights respecting articles.

Curriculum Implementation

- To deliver a knowledge and skill-based curriculum which ensures full coverage of the National Curriculum objectives, showing a clear progression throughout the year groups and within each year group.
- To make sure that knowledge and skills are built upon continuously to ensure that learning is embedded, and the skills are developed as each child grows into a competent historian who can make links between knowledge making it relevant and meaningful. This will allow children to think historically and build a bigger picture of history as a whole subject.
- For each class to have three main 'driver' topics each year, which allow for a full and diverse history curriculum. The driver topic will also allow for cross-curricular links to be explored and topics to be covered to the fullest, enriching the curriculum further and furthering the depths learning can go to.
- We will provide each child with an engaging, enriching, and relevant history curriculum which both challenges and supports all pupils.
- To teach children to think critically about historical ideas and sources, ask questions to develop their understanding and deliver ideas confidently.
- To share knowledge about significant people and events that occurred and how this has impacted Britain and the world.

- Our personalised curriculum focuses on the aspects of history that allow children to fully appreciate their local area and experience a broad range of real-life experiences, giving them opportunities they would not necessarily be provided with outside of school and giving meaning and substance for the children in our school community.
- We promote a 'can-do' attitude through open ended learning activities, giving children the chance to explore ideas and think historically drawing on past experiences in and out of classroom.
- To use the idea of divergent thinking to allow all children to progress and achieve at their own level.
- Teachers put careful consideration into their planning and lesson sequencing to gain as much from each lesson and topic as possible.
- Staff at *Green Gates* are highly skilled in demonstrating practical skills needed for children to meet lesson objectives and aims.
- A focus for *Green Gates Academy* currently is to increase the number of opportunities for writing across the curriculum, allowing children to transfer their English skills in a variety of different contexts. Embedding this into our history curriculum allows for children's progression and knowledge to be showcased and celebrated.
- Opportunities to show that the curriculum being taught is effective through the use of pre/post topic knowledge gathering activities.
- Teachers highlight curriculum skills progression document at the end of each half term to ensure full coverage and identify gaps in children's learning.
- Carefully planned and sequenced lessons which have been planned for progressions and depth of knowledge and skills; planning which quality is assured by the subject lead each half term.

Curriculum Impact

- Through the use of our curriculum skills progression document, staff are able to easily track and monitor the progress that pupils are making across aspects of the curriculum. Objectives from the National Curriculum can sometimes be very broad and left open to interpretation, so using a smaller breakdown of the skills required to meet these objectives allows for more concise and specific progress opportunities for pupils.
- Pupils are given sufficient opportunities to develop subject specific vocabulary, skills, and knowledge bases, developing the skills year upon year. This allows children to make clear links between their prior learning and expand on their knowledge base from previous years.
- Through the history curriculum at *Green Gates Academy*, children gain a chronological understanding about the world around us, its people and the developments to society over time.
- Children will have developed the confidence and historical and chronological thinking skills which can be transferred into other aspects of their daily lives.
- Progress from the start to the end of the topic knowledge gathering activities show that children are learning and retaining more information.
- Children will have an increased awareness of the history of their local area and changes throughout history that have shaped their lives today.
- Lesson observations and pupil work will show children are able to use the knowledge gained and apply it to activities and skills at an age-appropriate level with opportunities for challenge and abstract thinking.

- Through the opportunities given to the children to succeed and grow as a learner; a positive attitude and growth mindset will be seen throughout all aspects of their learning.