



History intent statement



The teaching of history at Merton Primary school inspires children to develop an interest in and understanding of the past, as well as showing them how history has influenced our lives today .

We believe that our high-quality history curriculum challenges and supports children to gain a sense of their own identity in the world by thinking critically about the past. In Early Years and Key Stage 1, children are introduced to a number of key historical concepts extending their knowledge and understanding of history from the present day to beyond their own lifetime and beyond living memory. In Key Stage 2 children follow a chronological journey through time from the very first human civilisations of the Stone Age towards World War II via ancient Egypt, Greece, Rome and pre and post-renaissance Britain.

The learning objectives for each lesson draw from knowledge and skills included in the National Curriculum. We teach children the skills required to be a good historian across three strands: historical **knowledge**, history **concepts** and historical **enquiry**. Historical knowledge is gained not only through **substantive knowledge** and facts but children are taught to develop **narratives**, note **connections** and **contrasts over time** and develop **a chronologically secure framework** and understanding of **British, local and world** history.

The concepts of **continuity** and **change**, **cause** and **consequence**, and **significance** and **interpretation** are explicitly taught and revisited in order that children become more independent in their application.

Children also develop an understanding of **sources as evidence** and their application in **constructing enquiries** and developing **valid and substantiated conclusions**.

Knowledge and understanding of certain **substantive concepts** is built from KS1 to KS2 as children are first introduced to them, revisit them and further develop their understanding of them within a range of different contexts. Our curriculum is underpinned by the concepts of **Empire, Religion, Conflict, and Society & Civilisation**.

Most crucially, we aim for the children to be passionate about history. This is achieved through a curriculum which excites children, encourages links to be made with other subjects and places an emphasis on stimulating learning experiences beyond the classroom as well as within.