



Six Areas of Disciplinary and Substantive Knowledge which Underpin the St Stephen's CofE First School History Curriculum

The assessment framework is structured according to these six areas of disciplinary knowledge, all of which are interwoven with substantive historical knowledge and concepts. These materials are designed to inform how we plan for children to improve year by year and assess how well they are improving.

Understanding of chronology	Our curriculum enables pupils to get better at describing the passage of time, and organising what they have studied in chronological sequence.
<i>A coherent understanding of the past depends on building a sense of 'periods of history'. In the primary years this is underpinned by being able to sequence events, lives and artefacts by date, year, decade, century and millennium, using the language of chronology to place these within a historical period, and to see how historical periods in different places overlap and run parallel.</i>	
Understanding of continuity and change	Our curriculum enables pupils to get better at identifying, describing and explaining what has changed over time, how it has changed and why change has taken place.
<i>Artefacts and objects from the past, events, lives and historical factors can have both similarities and differences, and may lead to things changing or remaining the same. In the primary years understanding of how and why things have changed over time is underpinned by comparing events, people and factors within and between periods of time, describing and explaining what has changed and finding out about reasons for change.</i>	
Understanding of cause and consequence	Our curriculum enables pupils to get better at explaining how events, the actions of people and other factors have had impact on the events and developments which followed.
<i>Historical events and actions link together and lead to others in a ripple effect. However, there is always more than one cause and consequence, they link together in ways which are often complex. In the primary years understanding of cause and consequence develops in KS2 and is underpinned by examining and reasoning about how sequences of events and changes over time had direct and indirect causes which can be identified.</i>	
Understanding of historical significance	Our curriculum enables pupils to get better at weighing up and making judgements about the relative importance of events, people and developments in the past.
<i>In History, we think about the importance of events and changes in relation to others, but the extent to which something is judged significant is debatable. The past does not change, but our views and understanding of the past do change. In the primary years understanding of this develops in KS2 by using evidence of what happened and the impact of events and change on people's lives to come to reasoned and plausible judgements about motives behind actions and about positive and negative consequences of change.</i>	
Historical enquiry and using historical sources	Our curriculum enables pupils to get better at investigating evidence of what happened in the past.
<i>Historical evidence has survived from the past like a witness, and like all witnesses it needs to be questioned. In the primary years children build a range of cumulative experiences of learning about how historians have discovered evidence of what happened in the past, looking at, handling and comparing primary sources of evidence, and studying and comparing secondary sources of evidence.</i>	
Communicating historical knowledge and understanding	Our curriculum enables pupils to get better at demonstrating and explaining what they have found out from their study of the past.

Effective communication in history depends on presenting, describing and summarising evidence and offering explanation of how the evidence is connected and what conclusions may be drawn from it. In the primary years, this is underpinned by effective discussion which promotes describing in detail and explanation which is based on reasoning, by deepening language comprehension through varied reading and study of vocabulary, and by writing purposeful accounts, descriptions and explanations.

Overview of Curriculum Coverage

	Areas of Study
Early Years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing knowledge of chronology, past and present
Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes within living memory • Lives of significant people
Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant events beyond living memory and the lives of significant individuals
Year 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age • A local History • The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain
Year 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vikings and Anglo Saxons – Struggle for control of England • Britain’s settlement by Anglo-Saxon’s and Scots • An overview and depth of study of at least one early civilisation (Ancient Civilisation)



Progression in chronological understanding

Getting better at describing the passage of time, and organising what has been studied in chronological sequence

Nursery	Reception	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4
<p>Talk about special times or events that are important to them.</p> <p>Begin to use words relating to the passage of time when re-telling a past event.</p> <p>Use past tense accurately</p>	<p>Talk about past and present events in their own lives and those who are important to them.</p> <p>Order and sequence a familiar event using words relating to the passage of time including, yesterday, last week, before and then.</p> <p>Develop an understanding that the past only includes things that have already taken place.</p>	<p>Describes events and objects in the context of the passing of time using comparative language "old, older, oldest" and time relative to themselves "the present", "before I was born", "a long time ago".</p> <p>Sequences events in their own life, and artefacts and images from distinctly different periods of time.</p> <p>Sequences events on a simple timeline.</p>	<p>Describes events and objects in the context of the passing of time using knowledge of the calendar, "year" and "century".</p> <p>Sequences events artefacts and images from within a time period.</p> <p>Places events on a simple timeline, matching events to dates.</p>	<p>Accurately describes events in the context of the passing of time using appropriate mathematical vocabulary including "decade", "BC" and "AD".</p> <p>Uses observational evidence, prior knowledge and reasoning to sequence events artefacts and images within periods of time studied.</p> <p>Places events from a historical period studied on a timeline, annotating to add further detail.</p>	<p>Accurately sequences events in the context of the passing of time using appropriate mathematical language, and uses mathematical knowledge to work out how long-ago events took place.</p> <p>Uses observational evidence, prior knowledge and reasoning to sequence events artefacts and images within periods of time studied.</p> <p>Places events from a historical period studied on a timeline, annotating to add further detail.</p>



Progression in understanding continuity and change

Getting better at identifying, describing and explaining what has changed over time, how it has changed and why change has taken place

Nursery	Reception	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4
Talk about their families and the lives of people who are important to them.	<p>Use artefacts to enquire about events in the past.</p> <p>Talk about the experiences of people from other generations (family members, teachers).</p>	<p>Identifies similarities and differences between artefacts of different ages.</p> <p>Describes things that are different in their life from that of older generations when they were young.</p>	<p>Describes in detail similarities and differences between artefacts of different ages.</p> <p>Describes how things differ in their life from that of a specific period of history studied.</p>	<p>Describes how a significant aspect of everyday life (e.g. tools, work, buildings) changed over time during a period of history studied.</p> <p>Explains the impact of change in a significant aspect of everyday life in how people lived.</p>	<p>Describes how a significant aspect of everyday life (e.g., tools, work, buildings) changed over time during a period of history studied.</p> <p>Explains the impact of change in a significant aspect of everyday life in how people lived.</p>



Progression in understanding cause and consequence

Getting better at explaining how the actions of people and other factors had impact on events and developments which followed

Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Describes the actions of individuals and groups from within the same historical study, and identifies specific consequences of their actions.	Describes the actions of individuals and groups from within the same historical study, the consequences of their actions and the impact their actions had on others.	Describes and explains how the actions of people within a period of historical study were influenced by factors which show historical change over time.	Describes and explains how events and actions and historical change over time had an impact on different groups of people depending on their circumstances.



Progression in understanding historical significance

Getting better at weighing up and making judgements about the relative importance of events, people and developments in the past

Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Judges the relative importance of a change which has occurred in a historical period studied, giving reasons for their views.	Compares the actions of individuals and groups from within the same historical study, the consequences of their actions and the impact their actions had on others, to form a judgement about relative importance. Compares the relative importance of two changes which have occurred in a historical period studied, giving reasons for their views.	Compares the actions of similar and contrasting individuals and groups from within the same period of historical study, the consequences of their actions and the impact their actions had on others, to form a judgement about relative importance. Compares the relative importance of changes which have occurred within historical periods studied, using evidence to justify their views.	Compares the actions of contrasting individuals and groups from different periods of historical study, the consequences of their actions and the impact their actions had on others, to form a judgement about relative importance. Compares the relative importance of changes which have occurred between different historical periods studied, using evidence to justify their views.



Progression in historical enquiry and using historical sources

Getting better at investigating evidence of what happened in the past

Nursery	Reception	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4
Comment and ask questions about objects from the past	Ask questions about how people in the past lived their lives.	Forms questions about why things have changed over time. Finds out information about the past by selecting evidence to look at and by talking to older people.	Forms specific questions about what took place and reasons for events and actions by people. Uses a variety of sources of evidence to answer specific questions about events which took place. Identifies differences between eye-witness accounts and accounts created after the event.	Speculates about events and actions which took place, giving reasons for their ideas. Uses a variety of sources of evidence to answer specific questions about events which took place and how things changed over a period of time studied. Identifies differences between accounts of events or actions which took place.	Speculates about possible and probable events and actions which took place, giving reasons for their ideas. Seeks evidence from a variety of sources to establish in detail events and actions which took place, and identifies what may be uncertain. Explains how differing accounts events or actions relate to evidence from primary sources.



Progression in communicating historical knowledge and understanding

Getting better at demonstrating and explaining what has been found out about the study of the past

Nursery	Reception	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4
Have an awareness of people and events from the past by sharing books and looking at photographs and artefacts.	Share stories and talk about events in the past.	Recounts events in the past in detail to show how something has changed. Explains how they know that what they say is accurate.	Recounts in detail an event from a period of historical study. Explains how they know their recount is accurate.	Recounts in detail a series of events from a period of historical study. Explains which sources they have used to build their sequence of events.	Recounts a chronological narrative showing how change over time has taken place within the period studied. Explains which sources they have used to build their sequence of events, and why they have used these sources.

How learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage provides the range of experiences and a secure knowledge base, on which the KS1 curriculum in History builds.

Planning for the curriculum and children's learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage uses the elements of the EYFS statutory framework rather than the subject disciplines of the National Curriculum. This planning is supported by the use of the non-statutory Development Matters guidance.

The EYFS curriculum starts with the child's experience in their family and in their immediate environment. The content of the curriculum is often guided by teachers in response to children's interests and planning needs to take account of the balance between deliberate teaching and spontaneous learning driven by curiosity and purpose.

Children's experiences and learning which, once they are in KS1, can be thought of as typical of work in History may in Early Years draw upon all the areas of learning – Communication and Language, Personal Social and Emotional Development, Physical Development, Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design. There will be a strong connection between what children achieve in what is called Understanding the World and what they will develop in KS1 in History, but developmental learning for children in EYFS is not linear, it proceeds in a web of multiple strands. For example, many of the experiences which will allow children to find out and think about events in the past will come from stories and story-telling, and from talking to people and visitors, the developmental purpose of which will be rooted in Communication and Language and Literacy. Similarly, language used to describe the passage of time

In our schools, the experiences children gain across the EYFS curriculum are rich in opportunities to investigate and explore their immediate and local environment, to explore questions they have about the world, and to articulate their thinking within their play and within structured activities. The way in which the curriculum is designed and experienced by the children supports the development of the characteristics of effective learning in EYFS: playing and exploring, active learning and creating and thinking critically. These are foundational to what lies at the centre of the subject discipline of History: curiosity in their encounters with stories, people and visual representations of events in the past, asking questions and comparing what they know about people and things familiar to their lives with what is unfamiliar.

Examples of a range of activities, planned with reference to Development Matters, enable children typically, across a range of contexts,

- Talk about their families, and what they have listened to about the experiences of people from other generations;
- Through handling of artefacts, study of images, and listening to accounts ask questions and enquire about events in the past and how people in the past lived their lives;
- Through stories, films and imaginary exploration, to enquire and find out about events and people in the past;
- Through stories, films and imaginary exploration, to enquire and find out about things which have changed over time.

All of these experiences and knowledge gained provide a secure foundation for what they will encounter in History in KS1 and beyond.



At the end of Nursery

Chronological understanding	Understanding continuity and change	Historical enquiry and using historical sources	Communicating historical knowledge and understanding
<i>Describing the passage of time, and organising what has been studied in chronological sequence</i>	<i>Identifying, describing and explaining what has changed over time, how it has changed and why change has taken place</i>	<i>Investigating evidence of what happened in the past</i>	<i>Demonstrating and explaining what has been found out about the study of the past</i>
Talk about special times or events that are important to them. Begin to use words relating to the passage of time when re-telling a past event.	Begin to notice similarities and difference between life now and in the past. Identify similarities and difference between pictures of the past and the modern day.	Show an interest and explore objects from the past. Comment and ask questions about objects from the past.	Begin to make sense of their own life story and family history by talking about significant events such as birthday, or other celebrations



At the end of Reception

Chronological understanding	Understanding continuity and change	Historical enquiry and using historical sources	Communicating historical knowledge and understanding
<i>Describing the passage of time, and organising what has been studied in chronological sequence</i>	<i>Identifying, describing and explaining what has changed over time, how it has changed and why change has taken place</i>	<i>Investigating evidence of what happened in the past</i>	<i>Demonstrating and explaining what has been found out about the study of the past</i>
<p>Talk about past and present events in their own lives and those who are important to them.</p> <p>Order and sequence a familiar event using words relating to the passage of time including, yesterday, last week, before and then.</p> <p>Understand that the past only includes things that have already taken place.</p>	<p>Describe some similarities and differences between events in the past and the present and objects from the past and present.</p> <p>Explore and discuss similarities between aspects of their life and life in the past, using books, stories and pictures.</p>	<p>Comment and ask questions about objects and artefacts from the past such as toys, clothes and other items relating to every day life.</p> <p>Make observations about pictures, objects and artefacts from the past.</p>	<p>Describe an aspect of everyday life within living memory.</p> <p>Understand that memories are things we remember from the past.</p>



At the end of Year One

Chronological understanding	Understanding continuity and change	Historical enquiry and using historical sources	Communicating historical knowledge and understanding
<i>Describing the passage of time, and organising what has been studied in chronological sequence</i>	<i>Identifying, describing and explaining what has changed over time, how it has changed and why change has taken place</i>	<i>Investigating evidence of what happened in the past</i>	<i>Demonstrating and explaining what has been found out about the study of the past</i>
<p>Describes events and objects in the context of the passing of time using comparative language “old, older, oldest” and time relative to themselves “the present”, “before I was born”, “a long time ago”.</p> <p>Sequences events in their own life, and artefacts and images from distinctly different periods of time.</p> <p>Sequences events on a simple timeline. (Aut1)</p>	<p>Identifies similarities and differences between artefacts of different ages.</p> <p>Describes things that are different in their life from that of older generations when they were young. (Aut1)</p>	<p>Forms questions about why things have changed over time. (Aut1)</p> <p>Finds out information about the past by selecting evidence to look at and by talking to older people. (Aut1/Spr1 /Sum1)</p>	<p>Recounts events in the past in detail to show how something has changed. (Spr1/Sum1)</p> <p>Explains how they know that what they say is accurate. (Spr1/Sum1)</p>



At the end of Year Two

Chronological understanding	Understanding continuity and change	Historical enquiry and using historical sources	Communicating historical knowledge and understanding
<i>Describing the passage of time, and organising what has been studied in chronological sequence</i>	<i>Identifying, describing and explaining what has changed over time, how it has changed and why change has taken place</i>	<i>Investigating evidence of what happened in the past</i>	<i>Demonstrating and explaining what has been found out about the study of the past</i>
<p>Describes events and objects in the context of the passing of time using knowledge of the calendar, "year" and "century".</p> <p>Sequences events artefacts and images from within a time period.</p> <p>Places events on a simple timeline, matching events to dates. (Aut/Spr/Sum)</p>	<p>Describes in detail similarities and differences between artefacts of different ages.</p> <p>Describes how things differ in their life from that of a specific period of history studied. (Aut/Spr/Sum)</p>	<p>Forms specific questions about what took place and reasons for events and actions by people.</p> <p>Uses a variety of sources of evidence to answer specific questions about events which took place.</p> <p>Identifies differences between eye-witness accounts and accounts created after the event. (Aut/Spr/Sum)</p>	<p>Recounts in detail an event from a period of historical study.</p> <p>Explains how they know their recount is accurate. (Aut)</p>



At the end of Year Three

Chronological understanding	Understanding continuity and change	Understanding cause and consequence	Understanding historical significance	Using historical sources	Communicating historical knowledge and understanding
Describing the passage of time, and organising what has been studied in chronological sequence	Identifying, describing and explaining what has changed over time, how it has changed and why change has taken place	Explaining how the actions of people and other factors had impact on events and developments which followed	Weighing up and making judgements about the relative importance of events, people and developments in the past	Investigating evidence of what happened in the past	Demonstrating and explaining what has been found out about the study of the past
<p>Accurately describes events in the context of the passing of time using appropriate mathematical vocabulary including "decade", "BC" and "AD".</p> <p>Uses observational evidence, prior knowledge and reasoning to sequence events artefacts and images within periods of time studied.</p> <p>Places events from a historical period studied on a timeline, annotating to add further detail. (Aut1/Spr1Sum1)</p>	<p>Describes how a significant aspect of everyday life (e.g., tools, work, buildings) changed over time during a period of history studied.</p> <p>Explains the impact of change in a significant aspect of everyday life in how people lived. (Aut1/Sum1)</p>	<p>Describes the actions of individuals and groups from within the same historical study, and identifies specific consequences of their actions. (Aut1/Sum1)</p>	<p>Judges the relative importance of a change which has occurred in a historical period studied, giving reasons for their views. (Spr1/Sum1)</p>	<p>Speculates about events and actions which took place, giving reasons for their ideas.</p> <p>Uses a variety of sources of evidence to answer specific questions about events which took place and how things changed over a period of time studied.</p> <p>Identifies differences between accounts of events or actions which took place. (Aut1/Spr1/Sum1)</p>	<p>Recounts in detail a series of events from a period of historical study.</p> <p>Explains which sources they have used to build their sequence of events. (Spr1/Sum1)</p>



At the end of Year Four


Chronological understanding	Understanding continuity and change	Understanding cause and consequence	Understanding historical significance	Using historical sources	Communicating historical knowledge and understanding
Describing the passage of time, and organising what has been studied in chronological sequence	Identifying, describing and explaining what has changed over time, how it has changed and why change has taken place.	Explaining how the actions of people and other factors had impact on events and developments which followed.	Weighing up and making judgements about the relative importance of events, people and developments in the past.	Investigating evidence of what happened in the past	Demonstrating and explaining what has been found out about the study of the past
<p>Accurately sequences events in the context of the passing of time using appropriate mathematical language, and uses mathematical knowledge to work out how long-ago events took place.</p> <p>Uses observational evidence, prior knowledge and reasoning to sequence events artefacts and images within periods of time studied.</p> <p>Places events from a historical period studied on a timeline, annotating to add further detail. (A2/Spr1/Sum1)</p>	<p>Describes how a significant aspect of everyday life (e.g., tools, work, buildings) changed over time during a period of history studied.</p> <p>Explains the impact of change in a significant aspect of everyday life in how people lived. (A2/Spr1/Sum1)</p>	<p>Describes the actions of individuals and groups from within the same historical study, the consequences of their actions and the impact their actions had on others. (A2/Spr1/Sum1)</p>	<p>Compares the actions of individuals and groups from within the same historical study, the consequences of their actions and the impact their actions had on others, to form a judgement about relative importance.</p> <p>Compares the relative importance of two changes which have occurred in a historical period studied, giving reasons for their views. (All)</p>	<p>Speculates about possible and probable events and actions which took place, giving reasons for their ideas.</p> <p>Seeks evidence from a variety of sources to establish in detail events and actions which took place, and identifies what may be uncertain.</p> <p>Explains how differing accounts events or actions relate to evidence from primary sources. (Aut2/Spr2/Sum1)</p>	<p>Recounts a chronological narrative showing how change over time has taken place within the period studied.</p> <p>Explains which sources they have used to build their sequence of events, and why they have used these sources. (A2/Spr1/Sum1)</p>



At the end of Year Five

Chronological understanding	Understanding continuity and change	Understanding cause and consequence	Understanding historical significance	Using historical sources	Communicating historical knowledge and understanding
Describing the passage of time, and organising what has been studied in chronological sequence	Identifying, describing and explaining what has changed over time, how it has changed and why change has taken place	Explaining how the actions of people and other factors had impact on events and developments which followed	Weighing up and making judgements about the relative importance of events, people and developments in the past	Investigating evidence of what happened in the past	Demonstrating and explaining what has been found out about the study of the past
<p>Uses mathematical knowledge to sequence events by date, and to work out and compare the relative lengths of periods of time.</p> <p>Uses evidence from sources and historical reasoning and inference to date and sequence events artefacts and images.</p> <p>Constructs a timeline which shows significant events from period studied.</p>	<p>Makes comparisons between historical periods, describing and explaining how specific changes came about.</p> <p>Describes the impact of change on people's lives, using evidence from historical sources to give examples.</p>	<p>Describes and explains how the actions of people within a period of historical study were influenced by factors which show historical change over time.</p>	<p>Compares the actions of similar and contrasting individuals and groups from within the same period of historical study, the consequences of their actions and the impact their actions had on others, to form a judgement about relative importance.</p> <p>Compares the relative importance of changes which have occurred within historical periods studied, using evidence to justify their views.</p>	<p>Forms a hypothesis as to what may have happened, using evidence from what they know to justify their hypothesis.</p> <p>Suggests ways that the accuracy of sources can be checked.</p> <p>Explains reasons for why two different accounts of events or actions may differ.</p>	<p>Gives a historical explanation which shows how change over time has taken place within the period studied.</p> <p>Explains which sources have provided the best evidence for their explanations.</p>

Places current study on parallel timeline in relation to other studies.					
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 **At the end of Year Six**

Chronological understanding	Understanding continuity and change	Understanding cause and consequence	Understanding historical significance	Using historical sources	Communicating historical knowledge and understanding
Describing the passage of time, and organising what has been studied in chronological sequence	Identifying, describing and explaining what has changed over time, how it has changed and why change has taken place	Explaining how the actions of people and other factors had impact on events and developments which followed	Weighing up and making judgements about the relative importance of events, people and developments in the past	Investigating evidence of what happened in the past	Demonstrating and explaining what has been found out about the study of the past
<p>Uses mathematical knowledge to sequence events by date, and to work out and compare the relative lengths of periods of time.</p> <p>Uses evidence from sources and historical reasoning and inference to date and sequence events artefacts and images.</p> <p>Constructs a timeline which shows significant</p>	<p>Makes comparisons between historical periods, describing and explaining how specific changes came about.</p> <p>Describes the impact of change on people’s lives, using evidence from historical sources to give examples.</p>	Describes and explains how events and actions and historical change over time had an impact on different groups of people depending on their circumstances.	<p>Compares the actions of contrasting individuals and groups from different periods of historical study, the consequences of their actions and the impact their actions had on others, to form a judgement about relative importance.</p> <p>Compares the relative importance of changes which have occurred between different historical</p>	<p>Forms a hypothesis as to what may have happened, using evidence from what they know to justify their hypothesis.</p> <p>Suggests ways that the accuracy of sources can be checked.</p> <p>Explains reasons for why two different accounts of events or actions may differ.</p>	<p>Gives a historical explanation which shows how change over time has taken place within the period studied.</p> <p>Identifies which elements of their explanation are supported by the strongest evidence.</p>

<p>events from period studied.</p> <p>Places current study on parallel timeline in relation to other studies.</p>			<p>periods studied, using evidence to justify their views.</p>		
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