



Curriculum Rationale - History

Let your light shine as a historian



History Intent

At St James's we believe that high-quality history lessons inspire children to want to know more about the past and to think and act as historians. With this approach, our aim is to develop excitement and curiosity for the children when they are immersed in experiencing different societies, attitudes, and values. Our history curriculum seeks to give children a solid foundation and broad overview in some of the most important periods, events, and themes in both British and world history. The curriculum provides pupils with a strong grounding in British history as well as opportunities to explore their local history. As a result, pupils will have a sense of pride instilled in them regarding the significance of Wollaston during the Victorian era and the role of the Black Country during the Industrial Revolution. Pupils will gain an understanding of how the modern world we now live in has been developed, thus appreciating historical diversity, which will give them lifelong skills to meet the challenges of the future.

Big ideas in our history curriculum

- ✓ Substantive knowledge
- ✓ Substantive concepts
- ✓ Disciplinary knowledge
- ✓ Chronology
- ✓ Enquiry and sources of evidence
- ✓ Historical interpretation
- ✓ Cause and consequence
- ✓ Continuity and change
- ✓ Similarity and difference
- ✓ Significance
- ✓ Source analysis
- ✓ Local History

Links with other areas of the curriculum

- ✓ Everybody reads (reading across the curriculum)
- ✓ Topic books available in book corners
- ✓ British Values (mutual tolerance, respectful attitudes, rule of law, individual liberty and democracy)
- ✓ School Values
- ✓ Science – discovering space travel and famous scientists. The evolution of the rock cycle
- ✓ Maths e.g., timelines, dates, calculating time periods, number systems
- ✓ Science e.g., evolution of rocks
- ✓ Art- Stone Age



Our school vision through history

Let your light shine to reach your God-given potential.

- ✓ Carefully planned progression of knowledge
- ✓ Inclusion for all
- ✓ Adaptive teaching
- ✓ Stretch activities to deepen understanding
- ✓ Effective use of teacher AfL

Let your light shine courageously

- ✓ Achievements of key historians are planned into units
- ✓ Courageous advocates in history celebrated
- ✓ Perseverance and resilience as a learner to answer questions and complete scientific enquiries
- ✓ Trips and visitors planned into units to inspire

Let your light shine as a beacon of hope

- ✓ Learning behaviour role model – learning gems
- ✓ Growth mindset
- ✓ Stereotypes avoided

Let your light shine - be the best you can be!

Spirituality in history

- ✓ Becoming increasingly aware of the concept of the self through the exploration of a child's own timeline and exploring their own past during local history units.
- ✓ Developing empathy, concern, and compassion for others in history, such as those who suffered the effects of World War II.
- ✓ Exploring experiences beyond the everyday, such as understanding how mankind learnt to fly.
- ✓ Developing the ability to respond emotionally to experiences of the wonder of the natural and man-made world. This will include architectural structures in Ancient Greece and Egypt as well as the man-made beauty of Stourbridge's glass industry and the Black Country's famous chain-making.

