

Subject Story: History

In our History curriculum you will see our value of **Friendship**

- Children share ideas confidently and openly, staff harbour an environment where all opinions will be listened and valued.
- Children work collaboratively on group projects for example building replica Tudor houses.
- Children acquire a chronological understanding of world and British history.

In our History curriculum you will see our value of **Responsibility**.

- Children understand the responsibility shown by individuals are often catalysts to changes in society.
- Children learn about the World Wars and the responsibility stowed upon the service men, evacuation efforts and the entire nation.
- Children ask and answer questions, choosing sources to show that they know and understand key features of events.

In our History curriculum you will see our value of **Honesty**.

- Children understand how our knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of primary and secondary sources.
- Children recognise that not all sources are equally valid, and that some evidence may come from propaganda or opinion.
- They should consider the validity of different sources and select reliable, appropriate resources to use to answer a specific question.

In our History curriculum you will see our value of **Love**.

- Children understand the power of love to overcome corruption and pain, displayed on individual, local and national levels as they explore British, local and world history, noting connections, contrasts and changes over time.
- They develop empathy as they identify similarities and differences between ways of life in different periods.

In our History curriculum you will see our value of **Courage**.

- Children understand the lives of significant individuals in the past who have contributed to national and international achievements.
- They discuss the attributes of these individuals that led to them making their mark in History.
- Exploring real-life account of the World Wars children gain insight of the inspiring courage displayed everyday civilians.

In our History curriculum you will see our value of **Respect**.

- Diverse curriculum allows achievement across all races, nations and civilisations to be celebrated.
- Children gain an understanding of the influence of early civilisations on the western world.



Children at St. Martin's say this about History:

'I learnt in the great fire of London people saved their belongings'

'I love learning about the Roman's, it is so interesting'

'My favourite unit in history is learning about crime and punishment'



Our **agreed consistencies** for History are:

- All children complete work in Topic books.
- Cross-curricular approach to units covered is encouraged.
- Year 1-6 to have Topic display showcasing work.

In our History curriculum you will see our school curriculum vision because our children **work with resilience – strive**.

Learning about past significant individuals and the resilience they demonstrate to achieve amazing outcomes is inspirational and a great example. Children understand the hardships faced by past generations and the resilience displayed by the pioneers of change and innovation.

If you were to walk into a History lesson at St. Martin's you would see:

- Use of artefacts to support teaching and learning
- Children articulating their viewpoints and opinions in a supportive learning environment
- Reference to the school's values to help children make connections with their learning
- Tailored provision to those requiring additional support and challenge

In our History curriculum you will see our school curriculum vision because our children **dream big - aspire**.

- Children understand the impact and power of one individual on the world.
- They understand the attributes of good leadership and importance of advocates for a better world.

In our History curriculum you will see children learning through **exciting, engaging learning experiences which develop their 'cultural capital'**.

Children experience events outside their daily lives, for example, Dorking Museum toy loan box, 'Kings and Queens Day' including a royal banquet, exploring the history of Epsom and origins of Rosebery Park. Children in Year 3 experience a day in the life of a Neanderthal during 'Stone Age Day' and children in Year 4 have a 'Roman Day' all delivered by historian actors from Portals of the Past. Children also experience a re-enactment of an Anglo-Saxon battle and hear first-hand experiences from an evacuee in WWII.



In our History curriculum you will see our school curriculum vision because our children **flourish - succeed**.

- Children develop an understanding of events beyond living memory that are significant nationally or globally and the lives of significant individuals in the past who have contributed to national and international achievements.
- Children understand the achievements of Ancient civilisations and the legacy that has shaped the world we live in today.

In our History curriculum you will see that we value **inclusion and diversity**.

Coverage is diverse and inclusive, with units covering the impact of significant black individuals to British and world history. Black History Month in October was celebrated with an art competition and newsletter highlights.

Study of the Chang Dynasty to reflect increasing Chinese pupil demographic.



In our History curriculum you will see how we develop our children's language, **including subject specific and technical vocabulary**.

Specific vocabulary linked to knowledge and skills is drawn from the National Curriculum and detailed within curriculum planning. Key vocabulary is progressive, in line with the increasing expectations and learning experiences set out for the children at St. Martin's Schools.

British Values and Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Learning (SMSC) in HISTORY:

By looking at significant events and people in British History, children develop an understanding of how they influenced and shaped the country that we live in today. Children are taught to respect and value diversity in our society, showing respect for other's viewpoints and opinions.

Social: Children think about what past key events and people have contributed to today's society. Children are encouraged to develop their historical enquiry skills by working as a team and problem solving.

Moral: Children are encouraged to discuss and create their own opinions around key events, using historical evidence to support this. Children are encouraged to be considerate of others' opinions when looking at the actions and decisions of past events.

Spiritual: Looking at significant impact that key individuals and events have had and how these can be interpreted. By looking at the similarities and differences between the past and present, through the use of sources and artefacts.

Cultural: Children develop their own understanding of our multicultural society by looking at local, British, European and world History.

Children achieve well in this subject. Highlights of **outcomes** in History for last academic year are:

Year 1- 90% working at or above and 10% working below
Year 2- 87% working at or above and 13% working below
Year 3- 92% working at or above and 8% working below
Year 4- 80% working at or above and 20% working below
Year 5- 90% working at or above and 10% working below
Year 6- 92% working at or above and 8% working below

Opportunities for spirituality and children being agents of change:

Being inspired by the impact of **significant individuals/ agents of change** in both national and international history- Florence Nightingale, Emily Davison, Lord Rosebery

Learning about Epsom's rich local history, inspiring children to explore local architecture and celebrate the town's significance nationally.

Successes in 2025-2026

Comprehensive review and development of local history planning and coverage in KS1.

Successful introduction of new unit in Year 3.

Revision of key vocabulary.

Artefact area continues to draw attention and spark engagement raising profile of history across the school.

Book looks give opportunities to gather exemplification material

Priorities for 2026-2027

Explore local network opportunities with local schools and deepen links with Bourne Hall.

Embed and support development of Chang Dynasty unit in Year 3.

Support historically low attaining Yr 5 cohort.

Continue to spark curiosity with use of artefact area.