

WOODFALL PRIMARY SCHOOL  
HISTORY CURRICULUM STATEMENT

At Woodfall Primary School we offer a broad and balanced approach to the teaching of history which not only meets the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum 2014, but also provides other opportunities to enrich and enhance the children's historical knowledge. Children are encouraged to think of history as a journey of discovery where there can be more than one interpretation of evidence and where parameters can, and do, change as new findings come to light.

Children's sense of chronology is gradually built up, starting with reference to their own lifetimes in Foundation 2 and progressing to changes within living memory before extending further back in time. Extensive use is made of timelines to help children's understanding in this respect.

An enquiry approach is adopted whereby children are encouraged to find evidence to answer questions and, indeed, most topics at Woodfall start with a 'big question'. Children are also encouraged to devise their own questions to help frame their learning. Pupils are taught to use a variety of different sources of evidence (including the internet, books, photographs, artefacts and documents) to help them find out information. They learn to recognise that sources often need to be used in conjunction with one another to build up a more reliable picture. They are encouraged to sift and evaluate evidence and to make connections both within and, as their learning develops, increasingly across topics. School trips and artefact loans from local museums are also used to enhance the children's learning where appropriate.

Local history is studied as part of the curriculum at both Key Stages 1 and 2. Significant past events, both local and national, are also studied, e.g., Neston Ladies Day, and memorable one-off events linked to our past celebrated e.g., the King's coronation. A Black History fortnight is held on a biennial basis to help the children learn about and celebrate the achievements of key black individuals and the contributions that they have made to national/international life. The planning of topics within this is on a rolling basis to ensure that children study at least three different people during their time at Woodfall.

Wherever possible, links are made to other subject areas to promote deeper learning and understanding and help the children to make connections with the world around them.

We have good links with Neston High school to help ensure that the history teaching here at Woodfall dovetails well with their provision and provides a solid platform for the children's further progression in the subject.