

History at Hopton Primary School



The study of history should ignite children's curiosity about the past from our own locality, to Britain and the wider world. Through finding out about how and why the world, our country, culture and local community have developed over time, children understand how the past influences the present. History enables children to develop a context for their growing sense of identity and a chronological framework for their knowledge of significant events and people. What they learn through history can influence their decisions about personal choices, attitudes and values. Our curriculum provides children with opportunities to ask perceptive questions, think critically, consider cause and effect, weigh evidence, sift arguments, and develop perspective and judgement through investigation and comparing and contrasting different societies.

At Hopton, our intent, when teaching history, is to stimulate the children's curiosity in order for them to develop their knowledge, skills and understanding with a particular focus on understanding the impact of human influence on the world and the role of significant figures throughout history. Mirfield has a proud history and children gain a pride in the history of our locality through a study of Victorian Mirfield starting in KS1 and building in KS2. We also look at how WW1 and WW2 impacted on life in our locality.

We recognise the important role that History plays in preparing our children with skills that they can use for life, raising their aspirations, understand how to be a good and responsible citizen, understanding change and societal development and a context in which to understand themselves and others. This is extremely important for children at Hopton Primary in allowing them access to a much wider world.

Our curriculum is laid out in such a way that the children will initially learn about their immediate history, that being their family and locality. This will be a starting block in EYFS and built upon as they enter Key Stage 1. Once this is consolidated, they will gain a wider experience of global history. As a child moves through our school, their historical knowledge and understanding will deepen as it would have been built on the foundations laid in the previous years. The concepts that children explore are revisited in different units allowing children to apply new knowledge to the concept in order to prepare them for future learning and life.

At Hopton Primary we are guided by the [National Curriculum for History \(2014\)](#). The National Curriculum for history aims to ensure that all pupils:

- know and understand the history of these islands as a coherent, chronological narrative, from the earliest times to the present day: how people's lives have shaped this nation and how Britain has influenced and been influenced by the wider world
- know and understand significant aspects of the history of the wider world: the nature of ancient civilisations; the expansion and dissolution of empires;

characteristic features of past non-European societies; achievements and follies of mankind

- understand historical concepts such as continuity and change, cause and consequence, similarity, difference and significance, and use them to make connections, draw contrasts, analyse trends, frame historically-valid questions and create their own structured accounts, including written narratives and analyses
- understand the methods of historical enquiry, including how evidence is used rigorously to make historical claims, and discern how and why contrasting arguments and interpretations of the past have been constructed