OLA Curriculum Intent:

History

Our History curriculum aims to provide the foundations for understanding the past and its influence on the present. Through building up a body of key foundational knowledge and concepts, pupils should be encouraged to develop a sense of curiosity and inquiry about historical events, people, and changes over time. They are inspired to explore how history shapes our lives and contributes to a shared understanding of our world, including the values we uphold today.

Our curriculum fosters a love of History by ensuring that pupils:

Build knowledge – Learning about key historical periods, events, and significant individuals from Britain and the wider world, in a coherent and chronological framework.

Develop curiosity – Encouraging pupils to ask questions, investigate evidence, and delve into fascinating stories from the past.

Strengthen critical thinking skills – Analyzing historical sources, forming reasoned conclusions, and understanding the causes and consequences of key events.

Link History to British values – Exploring democracy, rule of law, tolerance, individual liberty, and mutual respect through historical contexts and events.

Connect learning to everyday life – Understanding how history informs modern society, culture, and their own identities.

Explore historical careers and roles – Learning about how historians, archaeologists, and others study the past and contribute to our understanding of the world today.





Each topic has been carefully chosen and planned to ensure that our curriculum principles can be achieved. Opportunities to apply English and Maths learning are embedded throughout each topic to provide pupils with the opportunity to apply this knowledge within meaningful contexts. Pupils build a coherent and chronological substantive knowledge of the history of Britain and the wider world, through the framework of our eight big ideas. These big ideas provide both a lens through which to study and contextualise history, as well as support pupils to gain a deep understanding of complex, abstract ideas:

Community	How did communities in the past work together to face challenges, and what can we learn from them today?
Human Rights	What key historical events or people helped to shape the rights and freedoms we enjoy today?
Stewardship	How did people in the past care for or use the environment, and what impact did their actions have on the world?
Resilience	What examples of resilience can we find in history, and how did people overcome difficulties or adapt to change?
Equality	How have different groups fought for equality throughout history, and what were the effects of their efforts?
Health	How did historical advancements in health and medicine improve people's lives over time?
Wonder	What discoveries or inventions from the past inspire a sense of wonder, and why do they matter today?
Technology	How has the development of technology throughout history shaped the way people lived and worked?

