



# History at Hennock Primary School



## Intent – why do we teach History the way we do?

At Hennock Primary School, we want our children to explore and think critically about the facts and opinions of people and events to gain a sound understanding of how historical events and significant figures have shaped the modern world. This includes the importance and impact Britain has had throughout these changes in time. Our lessons are designed to allow the children opportunities to explore, investigate and make mistakes which they can learn from. Their contributions are always valued and celebrated.

During a child's time at Hennock, they will explore different civilisations from different regions of the world, as well as key periods in British history, and be able to compare and contrast different empires and time periods. They will come to understand key vocabulary linked with history and be able to use this in their work, as well as ask questions about different historical time periods.

They will understand how historians know about what has gone in the past through looking at primary sources of evidence, such as archaeology, as well as secondary sources, such as recounts and diaries. They will begin to understand why some facts about historical events are now disputed because of the way our interpretation of the past has been constructed.

They will also learn about some of Hennock's local history as a mining village and what life was like in Hennock during the Victorian age and World War Two. Our above aims are in line with the 2014 National Curriculum History Programme of Study.

## Implementation – how do we teach History?

History is taught in blocks throughout the year so that children can achieve depth in their learning. Where possible, teachers link History lessons to a wider subjects, such as English, Art & Design and Geography, so that children have a broad and rich experience. These are mapped out on Hennock's medium term plans and follow the History objectives in the National Curriculum, as well as our school's key skills documents.

The teaching of History begins in the Early Years through the Understanding of the World (UW) strand. We facilitate topic-based learning that allows children to explore different areas of history, as well as their own experiences through imaginative play. They also explore their own history which helps them to understand their identity and similarities & differences in their appearances and culture. The Characteristics of

Effective Learning also encourage the children to explore the world around them, question and develop curiosity about the history around them and its significance.

In Key Stage One, children begin to learn about significant individuals, such as Neil Armstrong and Isambard Kingdom Brunel. They learn about events within living memory and some that are beyond living memory but are significant, such as the Great Fire of London. They also learn about history linked to their own lives, such as toys and houses from the past.

In Key Stage Two, children expand on this by broadening the scope of their historical understanding. Ancient civilisations, such as the Egyptians, Romans and Greeks are studied, as are key periods that changed British history, such as the advancement of people from the Stone Age to the Iron Age and Britain's settlement by the Anglo-Saxons and Scots. Contrasting non-European civilisations are investigated, such as the Mayans. History beyond the year 1066 is also covered; older children find out about life in Victorian Britain as well as our local history when covering the topic of World War Two.

The teaching of history is enhanced by educational visits; in the past, we've visited Torquay Museum to see their very own Egyptian mummy as well as Kent's Caverns and other local destinations, such as Exeter. Visitors also enhance learning for the children and we often hold themed days where children can dress up and immerse themselves in historical learning.

## **Impact – what impact does our teaching of History have?**

Children at Hennock School think like historians and have a solid understanding of the time periods and civilisations they have studied. Their critical thinking skills develop as they move through the school as they learn how societies change over times and how this influences our lives today.

They can reason, compare, contrast, questions and make connections between different time periods in history and use the correct vocabulary to discuss their historical knowledge.

Children leave Hennock School having a deep appreciation for the aspects they've studied on British and global history and move on to their next steps ready to forge new connections around their knowledge of the past.