

The Big picture (Overview)

At St. Finbar's Catholic Primary School, we ignite children's curiosity and understanding of life in bygone eras. Our aim is to impart knowledge and understanding of both Britain's past and that of the wider world. Additionally, our students learn about lives and accomplishments of notable figures from the past.

We instil in our children a sense of chronology, allowing them to develop a sense of identity and cultural understanding rooted in their historical heritage. This process not only fosters an appreciation of their own culture but also encourages respect for diverse cultures in a modern multicultural Britain. We celebrate uniqueness of each individual, fostering a community that values and embraces different cultural perspectives.

What it's like to be a Historian in our school (pupil voice)

We have been learning about Kitty Wilkinson and how we created washhouses to keep people clean. (Y1)

We learned about lots of famous people and how they explored uncharted places of the world and pace (Y2)

In history, we are learning about ancient Egypt and this Indus valley. They are different ancient civilisation (Y3)

The think I like about history is learning about the Romans. I love finding out about the past. I can't wait to find out more (Y4)

I love finding out about the past and how it has changed things in the future. (Y5)

During our time at St Finbar's, we have found out so much about the past and how it has influenced the future. Everything is connected in some way (Y6).

Teaching and Learning

(Key learning and skills)

Displaying a good knowledge and understanding of people, events and contexts from a range of historical periods and historical concepts and processes

Demonstrate good critically think about history and express ideas confidently in styles suitable to different audiences

Consistently backing, accessing and challenging one's own other's perspectives using detailed, appropriate and accurate historical evidence taken from a range of sources.

Expressing a genuine enthusiasm for history and actively participating in learning, fostering a sense of curiosity about the past and an awareness of how and why people interpret history differently.

Valuing historical evidence and using this to construct a robust but critical manner to support their explanations and judgements about the past.

What we want our curriculum to help our children know and do (Intent)

At St. Finbar's Catholic Primary, we believe that fostering a rich understanding of local and global history is essential in developing self-identity.

We look back to explore how ancient civilisations have shaped the world and different cultures and examine significant events and eras in British history.

This knowledge allows children to appreciate how a democratic and multi-cultural Britain evolved whilst developing a deep understanding of chronology.

We want our children to use our wonderful city to learn from other cultures, respect diversity and work together with our core values at the heart of everything we do.

How we organise our curriculum (Implement)

History topics are carefully planned, structured and sequenced to ensure progression across units of work and across year groups or phases. A diverse range of both local and worldwide role models are celebrated. The classroom is a base, with opportunities in the local and wider environment a key tool in enriching and empowering learning.

We are in our final year of rolling out the new Opening Worlds curriculum. From summer term in year 2 until year 6, the children will be taught through this sequential, multi-linked curriculum which allow the children time to deepen their knowledge of certain time periods. This importance of both continuity and progress is to ensure time is dedicated to think about what subject knowledge the pupils have already mastered, and how this can be built upon and extended throughout the wider curriculum.

Children are encouraged to link learning from one year group to the next with use of quick recaps at the start of each lesson and topic to aid retention of key concepts and information.

How we know children are knowing and doing more (Impact)

We have confident and excited learners who are sure of their ability to share their historical knowledge with both peers and adults, using subject-specific words and a deep understanding of the topic. We ensure that all students have an equal chance to succeed by promoting collaborative learning and providing continuous feedback through ongoing assessments by our teaching staff.

We collect assessment information regularly and analyse it as part of our monitoring process. Our monitoring in history involves reviewing student's word, observing lessons, conducting learning walks, assessing learning environments and gathering feedback from students and/or staff. This information is then used to improve our curriculum and adjust our teaching methods accordingly.