

History Curriculum overview for parents and carers

History Curriculum overview for parents and carers (EYFS and Key stage 1)

EYFS - Nursery 1 & 2 and Reception (2025 - 2026)	
Autumn	All About Me / People Who Help Us Nursery 1: Children have been learning about their families and the people who are important to them. They have noticed how people help in our community and talked about the different roles that adults play. Nursery 2: Children have shared family traditions and stories from their past, beginning to make sense of how life and jobs have changed over time. They explored how people help others in the community and talked about how things looked in the past compared to now. Reception: Children have explored their families and local community, recognising that some people and places have special importance. They have talked about how their community has changed and learned about familiar figures who help us today.
Spring	Dinosaurs / Nursery Rhymes and Traditional Tales Nursery 1: Children have discovered that dinosaurs lived a long time ago and talked about how life then was different from today. Through nursery rhymes and stories, they have begun to explore the idea of the past and how things change. Nursery 2: Children have compared life in the time of dinosaurs to their own experiences now. They have explored old songs and stories that have been passed down, recognising that people and creatures from the past lived differently. Reception: Children have learned about significant people who discovered dinosaurs and explored stories about the past. They have compared and contrasted life long ago with their lives today, developing their understanding of change over time.
Summer	Growing / Summertime / The Sea Nursery 1: Children have explored how things grow and change by planting seeds and observing nature. They have begun to notice that living things develop over time. Nursery 2: Children have learned about lifecycles and how plants and animals grow and change. They have talked about caring for living things and how people can help protect the environment. Reception: Children have explored the natural changes that occur during different seasons and how these affect living things. They have discussed how people care for the environment and how places and nature can change over time.

History Curriculum overview for parents and carers

Year 1&2 (2025 – 2026)	
Autumn	How am I making history? Looking at personal chronology and finding out about the past within living memory, children examine photographs and ask questions. They begin to look at a simple timeline extending back to before they were born.
Spring	How have toys changed? Sequencing toys into a physical timeline, children investigate artefacts from the past and begin to pose questions. They learn how teddy bears have changed and ‘interview’ an old teddy bear before considering what toys may be like in the future.
Summer	How have explorers changed the world? Finding out about events and people beyond living memory, children focus on explorers and what makes them significant. They create a timeline and investigate which parts of the world were explored, before comparing exploration in the past with exploration today. Discuss ways in which these significant people could be remembered.

History Curriculum overview for parents and carers

Year 3&4 (2025 – 2026)	
Autumn	British history 1: Would you prefer to live in the Stone Age, Iron Age or Bronze Age? Looking at the chronology of mankind from the Stone Age to today, children are introduced to Britain's story. Using archaeological evidence, to learn about the changes from the Stone to the Bronze Age and answer historical questions. Identifying the limitations of this type of evidence and reconstructing the life of the Amesbury Archer.
Spring	What was important to ancient Egyptians? Developing their understanding of how ancient civilisations emerged, the children explore the geography of Ancient Egypt and the significance of the River Nile. They also learn how historians use evidence like the Rosetta Stone to uncover the past. In addition, they examine the role of religion in daily life through beliefs about gods, goddesses and the afterlife; and consider how these beliefs were reflected in mummification practices and burial items.
Summer	How did the achievements of the ancient Maya impact their society and beyond? Investigating historical and archaeological evidence, the children explore the achievements of ancient peoples like the Maya. By making inferences and observing artefacts, they study the ancient Maya's settlements in rainforests, the cultural significance of chocolate and the impact of their beliefs, inventions and decline within and beyond their society.

History Curriculum overview for parents and carers

Year 5&6 (2025 – 2026)	
Autumn	Victorians and the Industrial Revolution Understanding of the reign of Queen Victoria from 1837 to 1901 and how this era of the industrial revolution brought about change. Investigate a shift from cottage industries and farming to major manufacturing businesses that use large scale machinery for the production of goods. Steam generated power changed industry, manufacturing, travel for business and leisure. Understanding the difference in rich and poor people in the Victorian era, particularly children and work conditions. Investigating how women faced discrimination and used the Suffragette movement to campaign to get votes for women. Inventions for impact. Telegraph, radio, telephone, bicycle, Steam locomotive, industrial machinery. Show the importance of people like Florence Nightingale, Dr Barnardo and their impact on how they changed Britain.
Spring	British history 6: What was the impact of World War II on the people of Britain? Extending their chronological knowledge beyond 1066, children learn about how World War II changed British society. They discover the different reasons why Britain went to war in 1939 and investigate the experiences of families during the Blitz. Using a range of sources which are new to them including video and photographs, children reconstruct the feelings of those living on the home front in World War II and consider how migrants helped the war effort.
Summer	Civil rights and the Human Rights Icons Understanding of inequalities throughout history. Investigate human and civil rights, UN Rights of the Child and what the impact has been on different members of society. Slavery and what impact did Olaudah Equiano have on the world? Who were Millicent Garrett Fawcett and Emmeline Pankhurst and what impact did they have on the world? Understand the importance of Martin Luther King and Nelson Mandella and Malala Yousafzai.