



# History *at* Northowram Primary School

Inspiring Success Beyond Expectation



## **Intent**

At Northowram Primary School, our young historians will gain a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world. They will ask perceptive questions, think critically, weigh evidence, sift arguments, and develop perspective and judgement. History helps pupils to understand the complexity of people's lives, the process of change, the diversity of societies and relationships between different groups, as well as their own identity and the challenges of their time. History in our school will give children a desire and curiosity to learn more about the past, and help them to better understand our lives today. Our desire is to create a knowledge-based curriculum that goes beyond national curriculum coverage of History to develop children's cultural capital and better prepare them for life beyond Northowram; this includes studies of The French Revolution, The Transatlantic Slave Trade and The Cold War. We strive for our curriculum to build on prior learning and previously taught and acquired skills by studying key substantive concepts (such as empire, monarchy and social hierarchy) across a range of time periods, events and people throughout history.

## **Implementation**

History has a high status in our school and is viewed as a core subject. It is taught for one hour each week in KS2, and for one hour a week every other half term in KS1. The children engage in lessons where prior learning is recapped, vocab is taught, key knowledge goals are explained and discussed and children will apply their new learning to a range of tasks, thinking about different time periods as well as key concepts that run throughout history. Our history curriculum allows children to develop a chronologically secure knowledge and understanding of local, British and world history. We focus on substantive concepts of history such as monarchy, civilisation and empire, and children are encouraged to make links across the different topics and time periods they study, thinking about how the past has shaped our lives today. Disciplinary concepts, such as continuity and change, cause and consequence and similarity, difference and significance, are also explored in every unit. Our lessons are supplemented by quality texts and displays which are featured in all classrooms throughout school. Each individual lesson has content that is scaffolded so that learning is inclusive, age-appropriate and that our high expectations are maintained.

## **Impact**

Our History curriculum aims to ignite children's love for History, preparing them with essential knowledge for Key Stage 3 and beyond, and ensuring that they are motivated and inspired to continue their learning. Children will use and apply skills across the curriculum, making meaningful connections in purposeful contexts. History has strong links with Geography, Art and Literacy in particular in our school, and children are encouraged to use this to strengthen their learning across the curriculum. Our aim is for children to leave KS2 with a curiosity to learn more about the past, and to approach History with enthusiasm and confidence, understanding how their knowledge fits in with the wider world and with life throughout history. Children also have the opportunity to explore history through school trips, which provides a more hands on experience to enhance understanding and enjoyment. Within History at Northowram Primary School, we measure the impact of our curriculum through monitoring work, listening to the children's attitudes about History through pupil voice interviews and by taking learning walks and whole-school book looks. We know that our children are passionate and knowledgeable about their History work, and children are always keen to talk about what they enjoy and what they have learned. Through weekly recap quizzes, end-of-unit quizzes and assessed written pieces, our children are able to evidence knowledge-based learning goals and demonstrate their understanding of the substantive and disciplinary concepts of History.