



## The Aims and Intention of History.

At Alton Infant School we aim to provide a high quality history education, across the whole school. Our children learn about the history of their local environment, community and the wider world as well as historical events and significant people in history. **The children's** historical journey, beginning in EYFS and continuing throughout Key Stage 1, is stimulating and enjoyable, ensuring children develop a love for the subject. Through our engaging curriculum, Alton Infant School aims to use effective teaching to equip children with historical skills and knowledge, allowing them to ask questions, think critically, weigh evidence and investigate for themselves. Children at Alton Infant School are given the opportunity to investigate, fact find and apply their findings, conducting their own research and work collaboratively to extend their historical curiosity as far as possible. At Alton Infant School, History is accessible to all learners, regardless of individual starting points.

## The Implementation of History.

Our young historians begin their journey in the **Early Years Foundation Stage**, looking at their own family and understanding its history. We aim to provide children with the skills to begin to understand chronology and the differences between things in the past and now. We aim to stimulate their curiosity and begin to encourage the skills of asking questions through enquiry about the lives of others beyond living memory. We use stories and settings to allow the children to comment on their discoveries and work collaboratively to share their findings, make links and notice differences between our lives now and life in the past.

Moving our young historians on to **Key Stage 1**, encourages children to build upon the skills they learnt in EYFS to add a deeper level of enquiry and understanding. History is taught through a topic based approach with cross-curricular links being made to encourage a depth of knowledge. You will see history topics taught in 3 half terms in both Year 1 and 2 to allow a well-balanced set of skills to be developed across Key Stage 1. Using the introduction of chronology from EYFS, we build on sequencing and timelines to support children in their understanding of passing time. We use artefacts **to solidify children's understanding of 'old' and 'new' and to encourage children to ask questions**, and make links through similarities and differences and any previous knowledge they may have. To **support children's** historical interpretation, we use visual learning resources such as stories, books, photographs, pictures and artefacts to allow children to make predictions and form their own route of enquiry. As the children progress through EYFS and Key Stage 1, prior learning is revisited and comparisons are made.

At Alton Infant School we allow children to communicate their discoveries through, discussion, drawings, role play, art and model making, writing and the use of ICT. This allows History to be accessible to all children, no matter their strengths and individual talents.

The historical journey taken by the children at Alton Infant School follows the National Curriculum and ensures that the children are well-prepared for further enquiry based learning in Key Stage 2. We use high-quality, up-to-date **resources to support children's understanding** and these are used in all lessons to capture **the children's interest**. Our high-quality teaching promotes collaborative discovery and also **develops children's communication** and resilience. This is further embedded

through our cross-curricular links. For example, in English children, express their predictions and discoveries through writing.

### The Impact of History

History is enjoyed by all pupils as they are given the opportunities to use their curiosity and inquisitiveness about the past. Children are encouraged to ask questions, research and make discoveries. The children will make predictions and links to facts they already know. We encourage the children to talk- in pairs, small groups, on learning walks or through class discussions to share their ideas and discoveries. Children at Alton Infant School may record how they feel suits them, whether that be pictorially, through pictures taken by the class teachers or through scribing down their own ideas. The children are able to express their views through drama, art, DT and writing. We revisit previous topics to assess and consolidate all previous learning in History from the Key Stage. By the end of Key Stage 1, the majority of children at Alton Infant School fully understand the key attainment targets for history.