

History Substantive Concepts Progression Map



Monarchy

EYFS/KS1

Recognise kings and queens as important people from the past. Understand that monarchs rule countries.

Lower KS2

Understand how monarchs exercised power and influenced events. Study rulers such as Henry VIII and Anglo-Saxon kings.

Upper KS2

Evaluate the changing role of monarchy over time. Explore how monarchs influenced government, religion, conflict and society, including debates about power and authority.

End Point

Pupils understand how monarchy has evolved from absolute rulers to constitutional monarchy and can explain its influence on British history.



Conflict

EYFS/KS1

Understand that battles and wars happened in the past and affected people's lives.

Lower KS2

Explore causes and consequences of conflicts such as Roman invasions, Anglo-Saxon settlement and Viking raids.

Upper KS2

Analyse complex causes and consequences of conflicts including empire, world wars and political struggles. Evaluate how conflict shapes societies over time.

End Point

Pupils understand that conflicts occur for different reasons and have both short- and long-term consequences.



Civilisation

EYFS/KS1

Understand that people lived differently in the past. Recognise features of past societies.

Lower KS2

Study characteristics of ancient civilisations including Greece, Rome and Ancient Egypt. Compare societies across time.

Upper KS2

Evaluate how civilisations develop, flourish and decline. Compare different civilisations and assess their lasting legacies.

End Point

Pupils understand what makes a civilisation and how societies change and develop over time.

**Innovation****EYFS/KS1**

Recognise that things change over time and people invent new ways of doing things.

Lower KS2

Explore how technological developments changed lives in periods such as the Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman Britain.

Upper KS2

Analyse how innovation drives social, economic and political change and contributes to long-term historical developments.

End Point

Pupils understand that innovation is a driver of historical change and can identify its impact across different periods.

**Inequality****EYFS/KS1**

Recognise that people's lives were sometimes different in the past.

Lower KS2

Explore differences between rich and poor in societies such as Ancient Rome, Ancient Egypt and Victorian Britain.

Upper KS2

Evaluate how power, wealth, gender and status affected people's experiences and opportunities throughout history.

End Point

Pupils understand that societies have often been unequal and can explain how inequality has shaped historical events and experiences.

Religion

EYFS/KS1

Recognise that people in the past held different beliefs.

Lower KS2

Study the beliefs of societies such as Ancient Egyptians, Greeks, Romans and Anglo-Saxons.

Upper KS2

Analyse the influence of religion on power, conflict, identity and social change across different periods.

End Point

Pupils understand that religion has been a significant force in shaping societies, cultures and historical events.

Slavery

EYFS/KS1

Begin to understand fairness and unfairness through stories and historical examples.

Lower KS2

Explore examples of slavery in ancient societies and understand that people were not always treated equally.

Upper KS2

Examine the development, impact and legacy of slavery, including the transatlantic slave trade and its consequences for individuals and societies.

End Point

Pupils understand that slavery has existed in many societies and can evaluate its impact and legacy.

Migration and Movement

EYFS/KS1

Recognise that people move from place to place and that families can have different histories.

Lower KS2

Study migration including Anglo-Saxon settlement, Roman expansion and exploration.

Upper KS2

Analyse why people migrate and evaluate the impact of migration on societies, cultures and identities over time.

End Point

Pupils understand that migration is a constant feature of human history and has shaped Britain and the wider world.

Curriculum End Point by Year 6

By the end of Year 6, pupils will understand that history is shaped by recurring themes that transcend individual periods and events. They will be able to draw connections between monarchy, conflict, civilisation, innovation, inequality, religion, slavery, and migration across different historical contexts. Pupils will use these concepts to explain historical change, evaluate significance, analyse evidence and construct informed historical arguments.

They will recognise that the past is complex, contested and interconnected, enabling them to enter secondary education with a coherent understanding of British and world history.