



History at Tittensor First School

Policy – September 2024
to be reviewed: September 2026



'A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots.'

- Marcus Garvey

Rationale – Why do we teach History?

History is a study of the past. Historians are detectives who piece together accurate pictures of what life was like in the past. Children are encouraged, like historians, to form opinions and use evidence and sources to develop an informed opinion of the past. They also gain an understanding of how the past has shaped the present and how it may affect the future. Whilst learning Historical facts, children begin to develop their investigative skills and the ability to ask and answer questions about the past. We believe that through using a range of sources and evidence, children will begin to create an image of a significant individual or time period. Research is a vital part of the History curriculum and we encourage children to pose questions and use evidence to form their own opinions and understanding about the Historical world in which we live in.

What are the aims of the History curriculum?

At Tittensor, we want to inspire our pupils' curiosity about the past. We believe that History should focus on stimulating the children's interest and understanding about the lives of people who lived in the past. We aim for the children to develop a sense of identity and a cultural understanding based on their historical heritage. We teach children to understand how events in the past have influenced our lives today. We also teach the children to investigate these past events and, by so doing, develop the skills of enquiry, analysis, interpretation and problem solving. As children progress through the school, we provide them with a chronological understanding of the past. We believe that pupils learn better if they can relate to an event or concept so, wherever possible, we endeavour to make links to local History.

What do we expect within the teaching of History?

At Tittensor, we expect that all teachers fully engage with the History curriculum. History is taught throughout our enquiry-based topics ensuring children have the opportunity to reflect on historical events and begin to build a chronological understanding of how the world came to be. Children are expected to fully engage with the History curriculum through a variety of learning activities, some of which (particularly in EYFS) may be discussion based. We encourage children to verbally respond with ideas and questions, giving them an opportunity to deepen their learning. Throughout learning in KS1 and KS2, children begin to build up written responses to the bigger questions and session leading questions. All data and assessment is recorded and stored on DCPro for monitoring and evidence purposes.

What is taught in History at Tittensor?

Focus/Unit	Nur	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4
Chronological Understanding	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Know and Understand aspects of History	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Understanding Historical concepts of Change	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Understanding Historical concepts of Cause			✓	✓	✓	✓
Draw on Similarities and Differences ('then and now')	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Understand methods of Historical Enquiry			✓	✓	✓	✓
Understand Historical perspective of Religious History				✓	✓	✓
Understand Historical perspective of Social History			✓	✓	✓	✓