

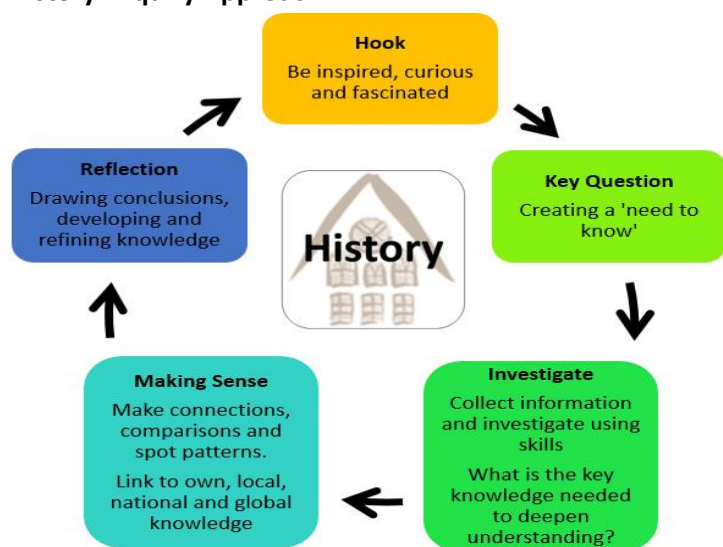


## Cove Junior School Curriculum Statement History

**“History never looks like history when you are living through it.”**

**John W. Gardner**

### History Enquiry Approach



### Curriculum Intent for History

Our aim in history is to create inquisitive, enthusiastic and respectful historians. We believe that history is the key to giving our children a context to the world and their place in it. We want the children to understand how the past affects our present and to understand and accept differences in historical cultures throughout the world to become socially tolerant members of a global community. We also encourage the children to learn lessons from the past; to explore the process of change; and recognise that change can be both positive and negative. This enables children to realise that mistakes are opportunities to learn. Throughout Key Stage 2, they will learn about many different historical periods, discovering links between them and revisiting core concepts and key skills that will be threaded throughout the entire history curriculum.

### National Curriculum Aims

The National Curriculum for history aims to ensure that all pupils know and understand the history of these islands as a coherent, chronological narrative, from the earliest times to the present day. Understanding how people’s lives have shaped this nation and how Britain has influenced and been influenced by the wider world. Children need to understand significant aspects of the history of the wider world: the nature of ancient civilisations; the expansion and dissolution of empires; characteristic features of past non-European societies; achievements and follies of mankind.

In addition to this, they will gain and deploy a historically grounded understanding of abstract terms such as ‘legacy’, ‘settlement’ and ‘exploration’. They are to understand historical concepts such as continuity and change, cause and consequence, similarity, difference and significance, using them to make connections, draw contrasts, analyse trends, frame historically-valid questions and create their own structured accounts, including written narratives and analyses

The children will also need to understand the methods of historical enquiry, including how evidence is used rigorously to make historical claims, and discern how and why contrasting arguments and interpretations of the past have been constructed.

Children will gain historical perspective by placing their growing knowledge into different contexts, understanding the connections between local, regional, national and international history; between cultural, economic, military, political, religious and social history; and between short- and long-term timescales.

### Curriculum Implementation for History

Our history curriculum allows pupils to build on historical enquiry skills throughout their time in our school, linking topics through key learning threads. Within each topic, we will inspire the children’s interest through the use of a variety of resources and tasks such as: artefacts, historical documents, photographs, a variety of written sources, newspaper articles and practical hands on activities. Children will be making connections between their prior knowledge, the sources they examine and their newly acquired learning.

To create a focus for our learning and model historical enquiry skills, we use a key question for each historical topic. The children will have a chance to collect information and investigate to deepen their understanding and answer their key question by the end. This gives the children a chance to reflect on their learning, extending their understanding through scaffolded and independent deductions.



### Curriculum Impact for History

In history, the children become aware that understanding the past is not simply a matter of facts. They learn that much of our knowledge is up for interpretation and depends greatly on those who recorded the history at the time or how it is interpreted in modern day.

At Cove Junior School, we encourage and promote independence and resilience in order that children can take ownership of their learning. We strive to ensure that our children's attainment in this subject is in line with or exceeding age-related expectations.

At the end of each topic, the children should be ready to build on their historical skills and knowledge in the next phase of their learning. We assess the impact of our teaching through the children's ability to approach new learning and apply skills and knowledge to unfamiliar situations. This enquiry approach encourages critical thinking which can be applied not only in history but across the curriculum.

