

History

“Study the past if you would define the future.” Confucius

Intent

It is our intention at Balcombe School that History will excite the imagination and inspire **curiosity** about the past. We work to develop an understanding of chronology and encourage pupils to see links between different periods. Most importantly, History at Balcombe will develop pupil's historical skills, including a **respect** for the evidence and an understanding of how the past is susceptible to different interpretations; children are taught to think for themselves and pose their own questions. Our aim will be to secure a broad knowledge of British history and that of the wider world. Through investigating the local area, pupils will also gain understanding of how history has shaped Balcombe village.

Implementation

Our history curriculum is underpinned by a carefully sequenced skills progression. Themes are chosen to interest and excite the pupils as well as to achieve coverage of the curriculum; the age of the children is kept in mind. For example, Ancient Greece is planned for the oldest children so that they can see links between this period and others they have studied at school. Bringing history alive is key with the use of real life artefacts, evidence, visits and visitors. Emphasis will be placed on historical enquiry so that, guided by the teacher, pupils arrive at their own conclusions about the past based on the evidence.

History teaching will exploit any cross-curricular opportunities; it will often be used to support other areas of the curriculum such as English, Art and SMSC

Impact

Children leave Balcombe school having:

- gained a love of history and are inquisitive about the past
- an empathy for how important history is in understanding the present and shaping the future
- developed their historical skills and knowledge sufficiently to enable them to access the curriculum at Key Stage 3 and beyond