



# The Forest CE Federation

'Small enough to care. Large enough to inspire

Valuing all God's children '

*'All things are possible for one who believes' Mark 9 v 23*

## History Policy

Reviewed October 2021



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## History Education Policy

### Visions and Aims

The Forest CE Federation aims to provide children with an exciting, broad and balanced curriculum that will instil a love of learning. Our approach enables all children to become lifelong learners by developing transferable skills to equip them to succeed in a competitive world. A strong **Christian** ethos permeates through our daily lives ensuring our pupils are cared for in a safe, nurturing environment within our small **community**.

Everyone is valued as an individual and helped to develop and progress in their own unique way within a Christian environment. Our vision, '**Small enough to care, Large enough to inspire, Valuing All God's children**' is at the core of everything we do. The curriculum we offer is not merely academic, but embraces the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all pupils and is deeply rooted in our vision that:

**'All things are possible for one who believes' Mark 9 v23 .**

We believe in the "whole child" and are committed to children's wider well-being through our **creative** inclusive curriculum, which is driven by our spiritual values.

Our curriculum is designed to spark **curiosity** in young minds through carefully planned opportunities for pupils to acquire, apply and master their knowledge and skills in a unique learning environment.

We know that a child who feels happy, safe and secure will have the **confidence** to try their best and achieve in all that they do. We endeavour to provide all children with the knowledge, skills and environment in which to thrive.

We define progress as the widening and deepening of essential knowledge, skills, understanding and behaviours. This is done through how we deliver our curriculum; Continuous Provision.



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## Introduction

Through the study of History, pupils gain a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world. History helps pupils to understand the complexity of people's lives and the process of change.

## Aims of History

- To encourage children to ask questions and think critically
- To ensure pupils know and understand the history of Britain and how it has been influenced by the wider world
- To equip pupils to ask perceptive questions, think critically, weigh evidence, sift arguments, and develop perspective and judgement. It should inspire pupils' curiosity to know more about the past."
- To show excitement and curiosity about the past and an interest in learning about others and their own past
- To develop opinions and interpret History using a variety of sources and evidence
- To develop research and interpretation skills using a range of media and artefacts
- To gain a strong knowledge about their local History
- To have a sense of their own identity within our social, political, cultural and economic background
- To have the opportunity to bring History to life through visits and visitors
- To create independent learners, who can research to find answers and who take increased ownership of their learning journey through continuous provision
- To make effective links between subjects, thus making learning increasingly relevant and enjoyable for the children
- To develop collaborative learning and partnerships within the federation and on international level
- To ensure all children enjoy and take pride in their learning
- To provide opportunities for the children to celebrate their successes and experiences with friends, family and the local community through Federation days, Marvellous Middle and end of unit celebrations

## Organisation

- History is planned through collaboration within the Forest Federation, ensuring consistency across all schools. Plans should be stored on Google Drive for Classes 1, 2 and 3 across the Federation



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- Lessons are planned and taught by class teachers, using lessons plans. These lessons should be personalised and relevant to the needs of the class and should be adapted to the needs of the pupils and the class. Teachers are encouraged to seek advice and guidance (when necessary) from History Subject Leaders and Senior Leaders
- History should be taught throughout the school year. A flexible approach to its implementation is encouraged, to ensure best opportunities are provided for the children and resources are allocated most effectively throughout the Federation. Continuous Provision is expected within History, although teachers must adapt lessons to the needs of their class
- History should be mapped in accordance with the National Curriculum requirements, to ensure sufficient breadth of study. This map should be reviewed every year both by the Head Teacher and the Subject Leader
- Teachers are encouraged to engage a degree of flexibility when teaching from this map to ensure children's learning opportunities are maximised
- Teachers should provide opportunities for parents to feel part of their children's learning journey. Whenever possible, parents should be invited to attend presentations and they should be encouraged to celebrate in their child's achievements
- History is taught in themed units throughout the year, all with a specific title

## **Resources**

- The use of books, computers, interactive whiteboards and audio-visual equipment is promoted to enhance the knowledge and understanding of a themed unit
- Teachers should strive to use outside agencies, visitors and educational visits to bring the curriculum to life
- Class teachers should request resources needed for their planned units. A yearly review should enable class teachers, the subject curriculum leader and individual subject leaders to plan for future resource and learning needs



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## **Responsibilities**

### **The Role of the History Subject Leader:**

The role of the subject leader is to ensure History is being delivered within our curriculum and it inspires and motivates the children.

The subject leader aims to continually improve the provision within the Federation.

This is done by:

- Providing appropriate resources to support planning
- Monitoring the teaching and learning of History
- Monitoring Federation unit selection to ensure National Curriculum coverage
- Identifying future actions or areas for development through the School Development Plan
- Offering advice and support to colleagues
- Keeping up to date with any new subject developments

### **The class teacher is responsible for:**

- Assessing each child and recording their findings
- Report on progress at Parents' Evening and on the School Report in relation to National Curriculum objectives
- Following the school's policy on monitoring
- Following the school's policy on assessment
- Adapting plans in order to suit the needs of the class, based on their own professional judgments

## **Staff Development**

The staff should be given relevant training opportunities to aid their development. This should be done in consultation with the Senior Leadership team. The Subject Leader is responsible for the support and professional development of the teachers and staff. Staff should also be given the opportunity to observe other professionals, including visiting and observing teachers within the Federation. Whenever possible, the school should promote opportunities for staff to gain experience working with or at other schools.

## **Equal Opportunities**



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All children, regardless of gender, culture or disability are given the opportunity to study the curriculum. We acknowledge and plan for the needs specific needs of all learning styles and abilities. We value the importance of developing all aspects of a child's learning potential. We strive to develop all children at this school academically, socially, physically and emotionally.

Mr Willsher and Mrs Boulton  
Joint History Subject Leaders  
March 2020