

History at Brackensdale Primary School

“The more you know about the past, the better prepared you are for the future.”

Theodore Roosevelt

Here at Brackensdale Primary School, we want all of our children to love history and engage with our exciting curriculum in order to develop their historical skills and knowledge. From early years through to Year 6, we aim to provide excellent, memorable history lessons and exciting experiences that will not only teach the children about the past, but encourage them to think and act like real historians, curators, researchers and archivists so that they can fully appreciate how historical events across the world have influenced and shaped the world we live in today.



Curriculum Intent

Brackensdale Primary School uses the Cornerstones Curriculum, which provides each year group with sequenced, contextualized history topics that promote curiosity about the past and instil a love of learning in our pupils. Through the teaching of history at our school, we offer an ambitious and wide-reaching programme of study that encourages all children to become independent and resilient learners, who will leave us at the end of Year 6 with:

- *an understanding of how people of the past lived, acted and thought*
- *the ability to read and use historical texts and source materials critically and empathetically*
- *an appreciation of the complexity and diversity of historical situations, events and ideas*
- *an understanding that historical statements sometimes need to be tested and that there are rules of evidence which require integrity and maturity*
- *problem solving, research and analytical skills*
- *the ability to work collaboratively and effectively in group discussions*
- *empathy and imaginative insight.*



History Topics at Brackensdale

Children at Brackensdale are taught history from Nursery to Year 6.

Our current history topics are as follows:

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| Nursery | “When we were babies” “Buildings” |
| Reception | “Celebrating Past Events eg. Halloween, Birthdays” “Travelling in the Past” |
| Year 1 | “Changes in Living Memory” “The Great Fire of London” |
| Year 2 | “Guy Fawkes” “Grace Darling” “Famous Pirates” “A Timeline of Lighthouses” “Helen Keller” |
| Year 3 | “The Stone Age” “The Bronze Age” “The Iron Age” “Historical Heroes and Villains” |
| Year 4 | “The Roman Empire” “Traders and Raiders” |
| Year 5 | “Ancient Egypt” “Moon Landing/The Space Race” “Ancient and Modern Day Greece” |
| Year 6 | “Aztecs and Maya” “Titanic” “Henry VIII” “World War 2” “The History of Polar Exploration” “Discoveries in medicine” “Crime and Punishment” “The Victorians” |

Local Links

We are lucky to live in a city that is truly rich in history, providing us with a wealth of opportunities to enhance our curriculum and make it truly relevant to our children. As well as making school trips to Derby Museum, we also welcome experts from the museum to our school, to support topics and enhance learning. In addition, we have close links with companies such as Rolls Royce and Toyota, as well as Derby County Football Club, who have all helped us to bring Derby’s history alive through relevant and interesting visits, projects and experiences. Here at Brackensdale Primary School, we want our children to recognize that history is made by people just like them, and to see themselves as part of the living history of Derby; to seize opportunities for success, make their mark and be part of the ongoing story of our city, our country and the wider world.

