



History Curriculum

A high-quality history education will help pupils gain a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world. It should inspire pupils' curiosity to know more about the past. Teaching should equip pupils to ask perceptive questions, think critically, weigh evidence, sift arguments, and develop perspective and judgement. History helps pupils to understand the complexity of people's lives, the process of change, the diversity of societies and relationships between different groups, as well as their own identity and the challenges of their time. (DfE: NC in England- History Purpose of Study)

At Beever Primary School, we believe that the learning of history provides a

provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for our pupils. It helps them to develop communication skills including key skills of speaking and listening and extends their knowledge of how language works. Learning another language gives children a new perspective on the world, encouraging them to understand their own cultures and those of others.

In Key Stage 1, we aim to improve pupils' skills and knowledge in these four areas:

- Within living memory
- Beyond living memory
- Lives of significant people
- Local history

In Key Stage 2, we aim to improve pupils' skills and knowledge in these six areas:

- Chronology (Stone Age to 1066)
- Beyond 1066
- Local study
- Ancient ancients (approximately 3000 years ago)
- Civilisations from 1000 years ago
- Ancient Greece

We recognise that language learning in its broadest sense has three core strands– oracy, literacy and intercultural understanding. We also recognise that children should be encouraged to apply their knowledge and that we should equip them, not just with knowledge about language, but also with strategies for language learning that they can use in the future when studying another foreign language.

The language offered at Beever Primary School is Spanish. Spanish is taught at some of our feeder Secondary Schools and so we aim to provide a strong foundation in the language to be developed further at KS3. Spanish is also the second most natively spoken language in the world, after Mandarin Chinese, and the primary language of 20 countries worldwide: in fact, it is estimated that the combined total number of Spanish speakers is between 470 and 500 million.

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: how people's lives have shaped this nation and how Britain has influenced and been influenced by the wider world
- know and 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
- gain and deploy a historically grounded understanding of abstract terms such as 'empire', 'civilisation', 'parliament' and 'peasantry'
- understand historical concepts such as continuity and change, cause and consequence, similarity, difference and significance, and use them to make connections, draw contrasts, analyse trends, frame historically-valid questions and create their own structured accounts, including written narratives and analyses
- 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
- 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.