

History Curriculum - Cotherstone Primary School

Intent:

Cotherstone, Teesdale and County Durham itself are areas rich in historical features including evidence of Stone Age activity, Anglo-Saxon, Roman and Viking settlement as well as strong links to Victorian Britain and the Industrial Revolution. Within the village itself, there are links directly to WWII and local industry including farming and cheese making. Our intent is for our children to understand the place in which they live in context of its own unique history, the history of Britain and that of the wider world. We feel that those children who live in and around the area should understand and be proud of their local history and their place in it. A large number of children in our school have moved into the area from various towns and cities around the country. We intend for those children to feel as much a part of the story of Teesdale and the wider area as much as those born and bred here and to embrace the knowledge and history that they bring to us.

Implementation:

We will inspire children's curiosity to know more about the past by planning and delivering interesting and thought-provoking topics and activities. We will use local and national resources, including museums, historical sites and people of interest to help enable children to envisage the past. We will demonstrate and encourage children to ask perceptive questions, think critically, weigh evidence, sift arguments and develop perspective and judgement. By working sequentially, in a chronological order – as best as possible with a two-year rolling plan – we intend to help children understand the complexity of people's lives, the process of change, diversity of societies and relationships between different groups as well as their own identity and the challenges of their time. By the end of their time in our school, we intend for our children to have an enthusiasm for seeking historical evidence, understand the methods of historical enquiry, how evidence is used rigorously to make historical claims and to question such claims.

Impact:

Through careful planning and delivery, children will remember key facts and concepts while developing an ongoing interest in history. They will be inquisitive and ask their own questions about history while at the same time questioning current thinking. They will understand the unique history of Teesdale and their own part in it while understand how the world has been shaped by historical actions and ways of thinking.