



St. James C. of E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Progression of Skills for History

By learning History, all pupils will develop their ability to think critically, evaluate evidence and ask questions – all essential to being an excellent historian.

Through studying History, all pupils will develop their ability to:

- Construct the past
- Sequence the past
- Identify and ask questions about change, similarity and difference.
- Understand and ask questions about cause and effect
- Understand and ask questions about significance and interpretation.
- Plan and carry out a historical enquiry.
- Use sources and evidence.





SKILL	Early Years	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Constructing the Past.	Begin to make sense of their own life-story and family history. Talk about the lives of people and their roles in society. Expresses his/her ideas and feelings about his/her experiences using full sentences, including use of past tense. Show curiosity about objects, events and people.	In discussion, can recall some of the key events and people associated with themes studied within family, local, national and global history. Descriptions of the above demonstrate some understanding of the characteristic features of the period studied.	Can confidently and accurately retell the story of events, etc. associated with themes studied within family, local, national and global history. Descriptions of the above demonstrate an understanding of the characteristic features of the period studied.	Can identify some details from within and across several themes, societies, events and significant people covered in local, national and global history, e.g. using knowledge gained from their study of the Stone Age, identifying three of the main achievements of the people in the Neolithic period, and perhaps providing some reasons for their selection.	Can identify a range of details from within and across local, national and global history, to demonstrate some overall awareness of themes, societies, events and people, e.g. using knowledge gained in their study of Ancient Egypt, identifying three or more of the main achievements of the Ancient Egyptians and providing some valid detailed reasons for their selections. Will begin to make some reference to other societies, but their reasoning may be undeveloped.	Can understand some features associated with themes, societies, people and events, e.g. use knowledge gained to demonstrate an understanding of aspects of the life within the Viking period, such as religion and food, but without links and grouping them into themes, e.g. social, cultural. Will be able to make some reference to and identify links with other societies studied.	Can provide overviews of the most significant features of different themes, individuals, societies and events covered, e.g. can use knowledge gained to give an overview of the main features of the Maya civilisation. Will begin to make links and group them into themes, e.g. social, cultural. Will be able to make links with themes in other societies studied.
Sequencing the past	Is beginning to describe a sequence of events, real or fictional, using words such as 'first', 'then' Develop ideas of grouping, sequences, cause and effect.	Can depict on a timeline the sequence of a few objects or images and/or pieces of information related to a topic, e.g. events related to family life in the past in correct order.	Can sequence on an annotated timeline independently and with some confidence a number of objects or events related to an aspect of a topic studied, e.g. seaside holidays in the past in the correct order.	Can sequence a number of the most significant events, objects, themes, societies, periods and people in LKS2 topics studied including some dates, labels and period names and terms, e.g. grouping a range	Can accurately sequence the key events, objects, themes, societies, periods and people within and across topics confidently using key dates and terms, e.g. they can accurately construct a timeline of Roman	Will sequence, with some independence and increasing accuracy, many of the significant events, societies and people within and across topics covered using appropriate dates, period labels and terms, e.g. place	Will sequence, with independence, many of the significant events, societies and people within and across the UKS2 topics covered using appropriate dates, period labels and terms, e.g. select

			Begin to explain why they have placed the items in this sequence.	of images related to the Bronze to Iron Age into the correct time periods. Provide valid reasons why they have chosen this time period for most of the images.	Britain and with some accuracy link this with a timeline of the Bronze to Iron Age. Provide detailed valid reasons why they have sequenced the events/objects in this way.	many of the important developments, people and events in the Anglo-Saxon period on an annotated timeline. Will be able to make some links between this sequence to the events and people within other time periods studied.	independently from a range of material, and sequence accurately using appropriate labels and dates. Can accurately identify links between this sequence and the events of other periods studied.
Change and Development/Similarity and Difference	Know about similarities and differences between things in the past and now, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class. Compare and contrast characters from stories, including figures from the past. Developing ideas of grouping, sequences, cause and effect. Making links.	Can identify independently a range of similarities, differences and changes within a specific time period, e.g. between early and modern trains or aeroplanes.	Can describe independently, confidently and accurately similarities, differences and changes both within and across time periods and topics, e.g. between holidays at different times in the past and today. May begin to demonstrate an understanding of which are the most important differences and why.	Can make valid statements about the main similarities, differences and changes occurring within topics, e.g. the pupil can describe a range of the key changes between the Old and New Stone Ages. Can see links between changes, and begin to identify types of change. Will demonstrate an awareness of the significance of change and its impact.	Can explain why certain changes and developments were of particular significance within topics and across time periods. Can provide a comprehensive list of the changes of Crime and Punishment within the period studied. Will identify links between the changes. Will provide a clear rationale for why one change could be considered to be more important than others. May provide insightful ideas	Can independently and confidently provide a comprehensive list of the changes within the period studied. Can independently provide valid reasons why some changes and developments were of particular importance within the particular UKS2 topic, e.g. decide why one or more changes in the Anglo-Saxon period are of particular importance. Will identify a range of links between the various changes.	Can compare similarities, differences and changes within and across topics, e.g. in terms of importance, progress or the type and nature of the change, e.g. provide some similarities and differences affecting differing locations within the world wars. Will confidently identify a range of links between the various changes, e.g. the change in women's roles during the war with changes in women's rights. Will begin to understand and

					about whether some things did not change very much within a period and why.	Can provide insightful ideas about whether some things did not change very much within a period and why this occurred.	explain how some of the changes were exceptional or commonplace, e.g. as part of the impact of the war on their locality.
Cause and Effect	Understand and answer 'why' questions. Develop ideas of grouping, sequences, cause and effect. Making links.	Can identify at least one relevant cause for, and effect of, several events covered.	Can identify several causes and effects of events covered. Will begin to understand that some of the causes and/or effects are of particular importance.	Can describe some relevant causes for, and effects of, some of the key events and developments covered. Will demonstrate an understanding that some of the causes and/or effects are of particular importance.	Can independently and confidently comment on the importance of causes and effects for some of the key events and developments within the topics studied. Can understand that the same event can result in both positive and negative effects	Can explain the role of different causes and effects of a range of events and developments, e.g. can list a range of valid reasons why the Vikings left Scandinavia and chose to settle in Britain. Can place the causes and/or effects in an order of significance and explain why they are arranged in this order. Can make a link between the causes or effects of events within one period with those of another, e.g. events in the Viking period with those of other periods studied, such as why the Romans or the Anglo-Saxons chose to settle in Britain.	Can independently provide a comprehensive list of valid detailed reasons why events took place and the effects of those events, e.g. how the World Wars had an impact on their locality. Will order these causes and/or effects into a hierarchy of significance and will comment insightfully on why they have selected this order. Will make a number of valid links between why certain events occurred in the period studied and events taking place in other periods or locations, or note how effects of events could be similar.

Significance and Interpretations	Demonstrate through examples and discussion an	Can give a broad range of valid reasons why	Can select what is most significant in a historical	Can confidently select what is most significant in	Can confidently select what is most significant in	May be able to identify some of the causes as long or short-term triggers and how some effects can be immediate and others long term. Can confidently explain the reasons why
	understanding of the term 'significance'. Can give some valid reasons why someone or something is significant. Will begin to make connections between significant events or people.	someone or something is significant. Demonstrate a secure understanding of the term significance. Can give some valid reasons why one aspect of a person's life or event is of particular importance in making them/it significant. Can make valid connections and judgements between significant events or people, e.g. why one of our local heroes is more worthy of study than another.	account, related to a person's life, a key event or a theme, e.g. which buildings are of particular significance within their locality. Can give a valid reason why they have selected a particular aspect as being most significant in a historical account, related to a person's life, a key event or a theme.	a historical account, related to a person's life, a key event or a theme, e.g. a development made by the Romans. Can give a number of valid reasons why they have selected a particular aspect as being most significant in a historical account, related to a person's life, a key event or a theme and why others are less important. Will begin to understand that some things will have long or short-term significance e.g. the developments introduced by the Romans and their relevance today.	a historical account, related to a person's life, a key event or a theme. Can give a range of valid reasons why they have selected a particular aspect as being most significant in a historical account, related to a person's life, a key event or a theme and why others are less important. Will understand that some will have long-term significance and others only short-term significance.	particular aspects of a historical event, development, society or person were of particular significance, e.g. they will describe and then critically evaluate the significance of various achievements made by the Ancient Greeks. Can introduce a hierarchy of importance and explain while some aspects continue to be relevant, others may be dismissed as no longer being relevant and not having long term significance, e.g. within the achievements made by the Ancient Greeks the significant impact of

							establishing democracy and its importance in society today.
				Can identify a number of ways in which two versions of the same account may differ. Can provide a reason why the two accounts of the same event might differ. Can identify a number of ways in which the interpretations are the same and also different. Can provide a reason why the sources may differ, but this is undeveloped.	Can identify a range of ways in which two or more accounts of the same event differ. Can comment on a range of possible reasons for the differences in a number of accounts.	Can confidently identify the ways in which interpretations of the same event or person can differ. Can explain why there may be differing interpretations and will make reference to the differing types of representation. Can also understand why there may be some similarities in the interpretations.	Can confidently and independently identify the different interpretations in a range of topics. Can give a range of valid reasons for the different interpretations in a range of topics. Demonstrate insight into why some aspects of the interpretation may be the same. Will make reference to the differing types of representation.
Planning and Carry Out a Historical Enquiry	Asks questions to find out more. Respond to what	Can plan a small enquiry by asking relevant questions.	Can pose a range of valid questions independently.	Can independently devise a range of historically valid	Can independently devise significant historical enquiries based on a range	Can confidently and independently devise significant historical enquiries	Can independently plan and produce quality, detailed responses to a

consider possible improved or ways in which it could be improved.	with relevant questions, comments and actions. Understands the past through settings, characters and events encountered in books read in class and storytelling. Learns and uses new vocabulary.	information to answer questions using at least one story and another type of source. Can use appropriate historical vocabulary.	more than one source to confidently answer these questions. Can use a range of appropriate vocabulary in both their questions and answers.	types of enquiry. Will answer them with detailed structured responses making reference to specific sources of evidence related to 'Why should we preserve our locality?'. Will use a range of relevant historical terms.	Can answer the questions in some detail using a range of relevant and varied sources to support points made. Work will be clearly structured with contrasting viewpoints considered. Use a broad range of relevant historical terms. Will work independently and with confidence.	ways in which it	
---	--	--	---	--	--	------------------	--

						or developed.	
Using Sources as Evidence	Comment on images of familiar situations in the past.	Can extract some information from more than one type of source to find out about an aspect of the past. e.g. about their grandparent's childhood. These sources could include written, visual, oral sources and artefacts including the environment.	Can select key information independently from several different types of source including written, visual, oral sources and artefacts, etc. to answer historical questions. Demonstrate an understanding that some sources are more useful than others in providing information to answer a historical question.	Can understand how sources can be used to answer a range of historical questions. Is aware that some sources may be more useful than others in answering certain historical questions.	Can recognise possible uses of a range of sources for answering historical enquiries. Demonstrate an understanding that some sources may be more useful than others by commenting on the importance of some of the sources.	From a range of sources provided, accept and reject sources based on valid criteria when carrying out particular enquiries. Can explain why they have made that selection, possibly with some references to utility and reliability.	Can comment with confidence on the value of a range of different types of sources for enquiries, including extended enquiries. Will explain confidently why they have made that selection, referring to both utility and reliability and considering the purpose, audience, accuracy and how the source was compiled.