

History

At White Court, we aim to provide all children with a high-quality history education which will help them gain a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world. Children will appreciate the value of democracy, individual liberties and the rule of law while developing mutual respect and tolerance for different faiths and beliefs. History helps pupils to understand and respect 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.

Our pupils will understand the history of these islands as a chronological narrative: how people's lives have shaped this nation and how Britain has influenced and been influenced by the wider world. Children will 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.

In Key Stage 1 pupils will be taught about: aspects of change in national life (Toys), significant national or global events (Moon Landing), the lives of significant individuals in the past who have contributed to British achievements (Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole) and significant historical events, people and places in their own locality (John Ray).

Key Stage 2 pupils will continue to develop a chronologically secure knowledge and understanding of British, local and world history, establishing clear narratives within and across the periods they study. Teachers will combine overview and in-depth studies to help pupils understand both the long arc of development and the complexity of specific aspects of the content.

Some of the topics covered include:

- Changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age investigating early kingdoms, art and different faiths.
- The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain (including invasions, conquests, resistance and beliefs).
- Britain's settlement by Anglo-Saxons and Scots (invasions, settlements, kingdoms and culture).
- The Viking and Anglo-Saxon struggle for the Kingdom of England to the time of Edward the Confessor (raids, law and justice).
- A local history study (Oaklands' World War II air base).
- A study of an aspect or theme in British history that extends pupils' chronological knowledge beyond 1066 (the legacy and impact of Greek and Roman culture, significant turning points in British history).
- The achievements of the earliest civilizations (Ancient Egypt).
- Ancient Greece – a study of Greek life and achievements and their influence on Britain (Democracy).
- A non-European society that provides contrasts with British history (Mayan civilization c. AD 900).