



Characteristics of a Historian

At Royston St John Baptist Primary, we believe that high-quality history lessons inspire children to want to know more about the past and to think and act as historians. By linking learning to a range of topics, children have opportunities to investigate and interpret the past, understand chronology, build an overview of Britain's past as well as that of the wider world, and to be able to communicate historically. Teaching should equip pupils to ask perceptive questions, think critically, weigh evidence, sift arguments, and develop perspective and judgements. 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 challenge of their time.

We develop children with the following essential characteristics to help them become historians:

- An excellent knowledge and understanding of people, events and contexts from a range of historical periods, including significant events in Britain's past
- The ability to think critically about history and communicate ideas confidently to a range of audiences
- The ability to support, evaluate and challenge their own and others' views using historical evidence from a range of sources
- The ability to think, reflect, debate, discuss and evaluate the past by formulating and refining questions and lines of enquiry
- A respect for historical evidence and the ability to make critical use of it to support their learning
- A desire to embrace challenging activities, including opportunities to undertake high-quality research across a range of history topics
- A developing sense of curiosity about the past and how and why people interpret the past in different ways.

- The lives of significant individuals in Britain's past who have contributed to our nation's achievements - medical pioneers such as Mary Seacole and Florence Nightingale.
- Key events in the past that are significant nationally and globally, particularly those that coincide with festivals or other events that are commemorated throughout the year.
- Significant historical events, people and places in their own locality.

- Changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age.
- The Roman Empire and its Impact on Britain.
- Britain's settlement by Anglo Saxons and Scots.
- The Viking and Anglo-Saxon struggle for the Kingdom of England.
- A local history study: Mining in Yorkshire
- A study of a theme in British history.
- Early Civilizations achievements and an in-depth study of one of Ancient Egypt
- Ancient Greece.
- A non- European society that contrasts with British history: Early Islamic Civilization