



Walford Nursery & Primary School

SMSC in History



Spiritual Development

Spiritual education in History involves the mystery of how and why events in the past happened and their many causes and helping pupils to a realisation that events did not have to happen that way, they could have taken other directions. It also involves realising the incredible significance that some individuals have had in the past, the distortions that can take place through time and the multitude of different interpretations that can be made about one single event. History allows pupils to see the similarities between people now and in the past and sometimes through sources and artefacts we feel that we can almost reach and touch them. Artefacts, for example, can bring us closer to people through touching what they felt, feeling their shoes, clothes etc. Pupils appreciate and value their own identity – their links with the past and the impact of past events on their own present existence. Children experience a sense of wonder by contact with the past (visits, artefacts).

Moral Development

Moral education in History involves pupils being encouraged to comment on moral questions and dilemmas. History is a story of right and wrong and pupils develop the ability to empathise with the decisions which ordinary people made at the time, based on their historical situation. Children will develop empathy through learning to see things from other perspectives, e.g. life as a child during WW2. Pupils will explore what we mean by truth in history – studying primary sources-examining census data and ordnance survey maps in Key Stage 2, comparing information from sources and studying first-hand reports.

Social Development

Social education in History encourages pupils to think about what past societies have contributed to our culture today. Pupils' own social development is encouraged through working together and problem solving. History also has a role to play in helping pupils to express themselves clearly and to communicate better. Children will learn about social issues in past societies and how past societies were organised and functioned. They will also discuss and evaluate the qualities, skills and attitudes of famous people from the past.

Cultural Development

Cultural education involves pupils developing a better understanding of our multicultural society through studying links between local, British, European and world history. Pupils will examine how cultures change, valuing past human achievement and spirituality whilst becoming aware of the concept of time-past, present, future and our part in it. They will do so using timelines, family trees, identifying hopes for the future and setting personal goals.

Examples of Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development in History include:

- Causes of world events, for example WWII.
- The role of individuals in shaping world events, for example Adolf Hitler and William the Conqueror.
- Exploration of the ideas of tolerance and empathy consistently throughout History lessons.
- Opportunities to explore the beliefs and values from past societies and from a range of different countries, using this information to compare with their own values and beliefs and also those of modern Britain.
- Questioning the moral codes of different societies.
- Examining the Bayeux Tapestry and the story it tells.
- Exploring the treatment and persecution of minorities in Hitler's Germany.
- Exploring British values through the British parliamentary system.