

History Curriculum Map 2026-27

Through our History Curriculum, children at Eastfield School will become historical explorers, developing curiosity and a deep understanding of the past. They will use the local area and community to investigate history firsthand, fostering a strong connection with their hometown of St Ives and its rich heritage. By exploring the town's identity and past, they will gain insight into its place within wider historical contexts, helping them understand how local history connects to national and global narratives.

Nursery						
Focus	Autumn 1 My Town, My Home <i>Exploring familiar places and change over time.</i>	Autumn 2	Spring 1 People Who Help Us, Now and Then <i>Understanding community roles in the past.</i>	Spring 2	Summer 1 A River Through Time <i>Introducing historical change through the Great Ouse River</i>	Summer 2
Knowledge <i>Past and Present</i>	Show interest in the lives of people who are familiar to them.		Enjoy joining in with family customs and routines.		Remember and talk about significant events in their own experience.	
Knowledge <i>People, Cultures and Communities</i>	Show interest in different occupations. Recognise and describe special times or events for family or friends.		Continue to develop positive attitudes about the differences between people. Show interest in different occupations and ways of life indoors and outdoors.		Know some of the things that make them unique, and talk about some of the similarities and differences in relation to friends or family.	
Vocabulary	Old, new, past, today, before, after, change, same, different, home, building, town		Job, work, helper, uniform, shop, market, tools, then, now		River, boat, bridge, water, float, sink, travel, journey, ferry, oars	
Cross-curricular enrichment and community links	Talking about their own homes – what is the same or different from older houses? Simple walks on the school grounds, visiting the post box to post a letter.		Meeting local community members to discuss how jobs have changed. Role-play as different workers from the past and present.		Observing boats and bridges today and comparing them to old photos. Water play activities inspired by historical uses of the river.	

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Reception						
Focus	Autumn 1 Our Town's Special Places <i>Recognising significant local sites.</i>	Autumn 2	Spring 1 Stories from the Past <i>Introducing local historical figures and tales.</i>	Spring 2	Summer 1 Travelling Through Time <i>Transport and movement in St Ives.</i>	Summer 2
Knowledge <i>Past and Present</i>	Talk about members of their immediate family and community. Name and describe people who are familiar to them. Enjoy joining in with family customs and routines.		Comment on images of familiar situations in the past. Talk about past and present events in their own life and in the lives of family members. Compare and contrast characters from stories, including figures from the past.		Talk about the lives of the people around them and their roles in society. Know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class. Understand the past through settings, characters and events encountered in books read in class and storytelling.	
Knowledge <i>People, Cultures and Communities</i>	Understand that some places are special to members of their community. Recognise that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways.		Know that other children do not always enjoy the same things, and is sensitive to this. Know about similarities and differences between themselves and others, and among families, communities, cultures and traditions.		Describe their immediate environment using knowledge from observation, discussion, stories, nonfiction texts and maps. Know some similarities and differences between different religious and cultural communities	

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			Recognise some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries.		in this country, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class. Explain some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries, drawing on knowledge from stories, non-fiction texts and (when appropriate) maps.	
Vocabulary	Church, museum, town, history, market, building, old, new, same, different		Story, history, long ago, memory, people, important, museum, artefact		Bridge, road, boat, horse, car, travel, transport, past, present	
Cross-curricular enrichment and community links	Creating simple pictures of our homes.		Learn simple stories about St Ives' past, including the history of the market. Handling and discussing old objects from the Norris Museum . Re-enacting past events through simple role play and storytelling.		A visit to the St Ives Bridge and Chapel to talk about how people crossed the river before cars.	

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Year One						
Focus	Autumn 1	Autumn 2 Market Town Through the Ages <i>The history of trade and everyday life in St Ives.</i>	Spring 1	Spring 2 Travelling Through Time <i>Transport and movement in St Ives</i>	Summer 1	Summer 2 Famous People of St Ives <i>Local historical figures.</i>
Knowledge		Develop an awareness of the past and how places have changed over time. Understand significant historical events, people, and places in their own locality. Use simple historical vocabulary to describe changes.		Understand change over time Develop historical enquiry skills: Explore local and national connections Ask and answer questions about the past.		Learn about the lives of significant individuals in the past. Understand how historical figures shaped the local area. Use simple historical vocabulary to discuss people and events.
Vocabulary		Market, trader, goods, coins, shop, stall, money, buying, selling, customers		Bridge, river, ferry, transport, road, journey, vehicle, wheels, cart, coach, traffic		Famous, important, past, king, queen, leader, Oliver Cromwell, rule, war, government
Cross-curricular enrichment and community links		Role-play as historical traders. Visit the Norris Museum for market-related artefacts.		Engage with different types of evidence (images, maps, local artefacts).		Walking through history tour of St Ives and visit to the Norris Museum.

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Year Two						
Focus	Autumn 1 St Ives Then and Now <i>Fires that shaped our town</i>	Autumn 2	Spring 1 St Ives in the Civil War <i>How national history affected the town.</i>	Spring 2	Summer 1 Buildings That Tell a Story <i>Exploring architecture and its historical significance .</i>	Summer 2
Knowledge	Compare and contrast the nationally significant Great Fire of London with the local Great Fire of St Ives, and understand how both events led to lasting changes. Develop Historical enquiry skills. Explore local and national connections. Appreciate the impact of Historical events, such as the Great Fire of London. Use evidence to interpret the past.		Explore events beyond living memory - national and global. Identify key historical figures. Explore local connections to understand the local impact of national events.		Recognise and explore how things change over time. Ask questions, investigate, and use evidence to understand the past. Understand the significant historical events, people, and places in their own locality.	
Vocabulary	Town, change, timeline, fire, flames, ashes, rebuild, destruction, recovery, past, present, old, modern, Great Fire, London, St Ives, aftermath, safety, rebuilding, impact, disaster, community		Battle, war, soldiers, king, parliament, fight, Cromwell, Roundheads, Cavaliers, rule		Church, bridge, architecture, materials, stone, wood, medieval, chapel, monument	
Cross-curricular enrichment and community links	Visit the Norris Museum and go on a walk through St Ives		Examine specific local sites (St Ives Bridge and Chapel) that		Visit to All Saints Church to see a building from a	

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	to compare and contrast the nationally significant Great Fire of London with the local Great Fire of St Ives. Build model houses using cardboard and craft materials to recreate the buildings from 1666. Write an information leaflet all about the Great Fire of London and St Ives, including significant historical figures (Samuel Pepys and Edmund Pettis).		played a role during the Civil War. Use role play to recreate a historical town meeting. Visit the local library to celebrate World Book Day.		different historical period (medieval times), illustrating continuity and change. Create a class museum exhibit using drawings, maps, and models.	
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