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The Trentside History Curriculum

Intent

At Trentside, we place a premium on delivering a quality History curriculum that holds significant relevance in our students' daily lives. Rooted in the belief that understanding the past fosters a deeper comprehension of contemporary society, our curriculum is designed to immerse children in captivating historical narratives. History, fundamentally about people and their experiences, offers a wealth of compelling stories that resonate with our students, celebrating remarkable individuals and courageous deeds. Our ambitious curriculum is structured around key concepts such as Society and Community, Exploration and Invasion, Conflict and Disaster, and Power, each aimed at enriching children's understanding and skills in historical analysis. Through these concepts, we empower students to become adept, critical thinkers capable of analysing, interpreting, and comparing historical events and sources.

Implementation

Employing a spiral approach, the History curriculum ensures the integration of key concepts across each Key Stage. Children utilise their vocabulary and understanding to establish connections and deepen their empathy for individuals in historical contexts. Adopting the role of historians, they engage in speaking, listening, and source evaluation to cultivate critical awareness, actively seeking answers and forming conclusions. Learning unfolds through narratives, questioning, and development of historical skills, enabling children to articulate their interpretations of abstract concepts such as development, trade, beliefs, and civilizations.

Fundamental Knowledge and Skills within the EYFS

At Trentside, the journey into History begins for EYFS children as they grasp foundational skills and knowledge, understanding the concept of chronological order through everyday activities like sequencing tasks, such as brushing teeth. They evolve into storytellers, arranging pictures in sequence and recounting personal experiences, reinforcing the notion of chronological progression. Children begin to develop a sense of self and their own place in their family and the wider world. Their emerging awareness of historical change, evident in recognising that aspects of their lives differ from the past, lays a solid foundation for delving into historical concepts in Key Stage 1. This progression includes gaining insights into their own lives and family history, distinguishing between past and present, and eventually discussing the lives and societal roles of those around them. These formative experiences effectively prepare children for their ongoing historical journey as they transition into KS1.

Impact

Through the integration of key concepts across all units of the History curriculum, children will acquire an understanding of the formation of their society. They will understand that the way we live today in the modern world is hugely influenced by significant events in history. This comprehension will enable them to cultivate an appreciation for the similarities and differences among various cultures and societies, thereby fostering traits of responsibility, tolerance, and curiosity essential for future citizenship. By honing both transferable and discipline-specific skills, students will be equipped to navigate the complexities of the broader world confidently.