



What does History look like in Early Years at St Michael's Nursery and Infant School?

The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum allows for flexible planning to respond to current events in the setting as well as the interests to the children.

The EYFS framework is structured very differently to the national curriculum as it is organised across seven areas of learning rather than subject areas. The aim of this document is to help subject leaders to understand how the skills taught across EYFS feed into national curriculum subjects.

The EYFS Educational Programme for **Understanding the World** says:

‘Understanding the World Understanding the world involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community. The frequency and range of children’s personal experiences increases their knowledge and sense of the world around them – from visiting parks, libraries and museums to meeting important members of society such as police officers, nurses and firefighters. In addition, listening to a broad selection of stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems will foster their understanding of our culturally, socially, technologically and ecologically diverse world. As well as building important knowledge, this extends their familiarity with words that support understanding across domains. Enriching and widening children’s vocabulary will support later reading comprehension.’

This document demonstrates which statements from the 2020 Development Matters are prerequisite skills for **history** within the national curriculum. The table below outlines the most relevant statements taken from the Early Learning Goals in the EYFS statutory framework and the Development Matters age ranges to match the programme of study for history.

History			
Birth to Three	Communication and Language		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Listen to simple stories and understand what is happening, with the help of the pictures. Understand simple questions about ‘who’, ‘what’ and ‘where’ (but generally not ‘why’).
Three and Four-Year-Olds	Understanding the World		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Begin to make sense of their own life-story and family’s history.
Reception	Understanding the World		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Comment on images of familiar situations in the past.• Compare and contrast characters from stories, including figures from the past.
ELG	Understandin g the World	Past and Present	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Talk about the lives of 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.