

Learning in EYFS:

What History Subject Leaders Need to Know

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.

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 for Three and Four-Year-Olds and Reception to match the programme of study for history.

The most relevant statements for history are taken from the following area of learning:

- Understanding the World

History			
Three and Four-Year-Olds	Understanding the World		• Begin to make sense of their own life-story and family's history.
Reception	Understanding the World		• Comment on images of familiar situations in the past. • Compare and contrast characters from stories, including figures from the past.
ELG	Understanding the World	Past and Present	• 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.



Here at St Philips, we recognise that whilst the above is the obvious core for history, the foundations for progression in history extend further than this –

Mathematics- particularly numerical patterns underpin access to chronological understanding

Communication and Language – facilitate receiving and conveying knowledge and understanding of the world and history

Literacy – in particular the ability to write will be a mainstay of how historical understanding is assessed throughout their educational journey