

The Policy will be reviewed bi-annually, or more regularly in the light of any significant new developments. The next anticipated review date will be:	January 2026
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History Policy

This policy is applied at GFM alongside our school's vision, mission and values. Interwoven with the principles of High Performance Learning; values, attitudes, attributes and A.C.P. Characteristics.

Rationale

History is a foundational element of our school curriculum, aligned with the UK National Curriculum, as it enables students to explore the richness of human experiences, understand the complexities of the past, and develop critical thinking skills. Our commitment to History education stems from the recognition that a comprehensive understanding of history cultivates informed citizens and fosters a sense of identity and interconnectedness.

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) - Knowledge and Understanding of the World

In the Early Years Foundation Stage, our focus is on fostering an early awareness of history through Knowledge and Understanding of the World. Students engage in age-appropriate activities that introduce basic historical concepts, such as chronology, significant historical figures, and changes over time. Activities aim to spark curiosity, encourage observation skills, and lay the foundation for future historical inquiry.

Primary Phase

For primary students, our History curriculum builds upon foundational skills, introducing them to key historical events, figures, and civilizations. Students explore topics such as ancient civilizations, medieval times, and the impact of historical developments on societies. The curriculum encourages the development of historical inquiry skills, chronological understanding, and an appreciation for diverse historical perspectives. Collaborative projects promote teamwork and the application of historical knowledge to better understand contemporary issues.

Vision

'At GFM we empower students to have the heart to celebrate uniqueness and the mind to be innovative, creative problem solvers, bringing a positive change to the world in which we live.'

Secondary Phase

In the secondary phase, our History program becomes more specialized, offering students the opportunity to delve deeper into specific historical periods and themes. The curriculum includes in-depth studies in areas such as world history, social movements, and the consequences of historical events. Students are encouraged to apply advanced research skills, critically analyze historical sources, and appreciate the complexity of historical narratives. The program fosters a sense of historical empathy and an understanding of the continuities and changes that shape the world.

Assessment

Assessment in History is comprehensive, encompassing historical knowledge, analytical skills, and the ability to interpret historical evidence. Students are evaluated on their understanding of historical events, their ability to analyze cause and effect, and their capacity to construct well-supported historical arguments. Assessments include written exams, research projects, and presentations that showcase the application of historical thinking to contemporary challenges.

Enrichment

To enrich the History experience, opportunities for visits to historical sites, guest lectures, and collaboration with local historians are provided. These experiences aim to deepen students' appreciation for historical context, foster a passion for exploring the past, and demonstrate the relevance of historical knowledge in understanding the present.

Parental Involvement

We recognize the importance of parental support in nurturing historical curiosity. Regular updates on the History curriculum, resources for exploring history at home, and invitations to historical events are provided. Workshops on understanding the significance of historical education and strategies for engaging children in historical conversations are organized to strengthen the partnership between the school and parents. Please read this policy in line with the Curriculum Policy.

Policy review date: January 2026

Vision

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