

History in EYFS

The EYFS framework is structured very differently to the national curriculum as it is organised across seven areas of learning rather than subject areas. These areas are Communication and Language, Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED), Physical Development, Mathematics, Literacy, Understanding the World and Expressive Art and Design. These seven areas of learning are further divided into Early Learning Goals (ELG's). ELG's are the targets that the children are expected to achieve at the end of their reception year.

The seven areas of learning are divided as follows:

Area of Learning	Early Learning Goals (ELG's)	
Communication and Language	Listening, Attention and Understanding	
	Speaking	
Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)	Self-Regulation	
	Managing Self	
	Building Relationships	
Physical Development	Gross Motor Skills	
	Fine Motor Skills	
Mathematics	Number	
	Numerical Patterns	
Literacy	Reading	Comprehension
		Word Reading
	Writing	
Understanding the World	Past & Present	
	People, Culture and Communities	
	The Natural World	
Expressive Art and Design.	Creating with Materials	
	Being Imaginative and Expressive	

As a subject leader, it is important to note how the different skills taught across the seven areas of learning feed into national curriculum subjects.

These 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 areas of learning:

- Understanding the World

History			
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. 	
Early Learning Goal (ELG)	Understanding 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.
	Understanding 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.