

EYFS Curriculum Links



What does History look like in Early Years?



Real-life experiences

Language rich environment

Sensory play

Outdoor Learning

Purposeful interactions



In EYFS, children are introduced to history/thinking historically through the 'Understanding the World' area of learning; specifically, the 'Past and Present' Early Learning Goal. By the end of Reception, children who are at the expected level of development in the area will:

- *Talk about the lives of the 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.*

In both Nursery and Reception, children have a home/school journal which facilitates conversation about what has happened in their own lives. They are encouraged and supported to talk about members of their immediate family and community, name and describe people who are familiar to them, comment on images of familiar situations in the past and compare and contrast characters from stories including figures from the past. This helps them to begin to develop an understanding of the passing of time.

As they progress into Year 1, children's understanding of the past further develops into an awareness of a chronological framework in which people and events can be placed. They begin to expand their historical skills and understanding by looking at changes within and beyond living memory.

The knowledge and understanding gained in EYFS equips our children with firm foundations with which to develop their historical skills within the four threshold concepts of St Aloysius' history curriculum:

- *Chronology*
- *Communicating History*
- *Investigating the past*
- *Thinking like a historian*