Topic Specific Vocabulary	
Year Groups	**Key Enquiry Question**
Year 1 and 2	Why did the Great Fire of London spread so quickly, and how did it change the city afterwards?
Word	Definition
design	A plan to help people make something.
flammable	Something that can catch fire and burn very easily.
material	What an object is made from.
architecture	The art and science of designing and constructing buildings.
location	A place where something is.
emergency response	The actions taken to sort out an urgent situation.
legacy	The impact or influence of a person, civilisation or event on future generations.
Year 1 and 2	Who is King Charles, and what important things has he done to help people?
Word	Definition
monarchy	When a country is ruled by a king or queen.
monarch	Kings or queens who inherit their positions and rule over a country or kingdom.
king	The male ruler of a country who usually gets the job because their parent was the ruler before them.
kingdom	A country or land ruled by a king or queen.
castle	A type of home built to protect the people inside.
environment	Everything around us - where people, animals and plants live.
Terra Carta	A global agreement, launched by King Charles III, that encourages businesses to help the planet.
achievement	Something good that has been accomplished, especially through hard work.
Year 1 and 2	Who was the best explorer - Ernest Shackleton, Jean Baret, Matthew Henson, or Felicity Aston?
Word	Definition
exploration	Going on adventures to learn about new places and things.
expedition	A journey taken by a group of people to explore, do research or find something new.
equipment	The tools, clothes and other things needed to do a particular activity.
racism	When someone is treated differently because of their race, ethnicity, nationality or skin colour.
prejudice	Having a negative opinion or feeling about someone without knowing them first, based on unfair ideas rather than facts.
legacy	The impact or influence of a person, civilisation or event on future generations.
achievement	Something good that has been accomplished, especially through hard work.
Year 1 and 2	How has transport changed over time?
Word	Definition

transport	The methods people use to move themselves and their goods from one place to another.
vehicle	A machine used to move people or things from one place to another.
pilot	A person who flies an aircraft.
pioneer	A person who does something for the first time.
global	Relating to or encompassing the whole world.
legacy	The impact or influence of a person, civilisation or event on future generations.
invention	A new thing or idea that someone creates to solve a problem or make life easier.
achievement	Something good that has been accomplished, especially through hard work.
Year 1 and 2	What part did women play in getting man to the moon?
Word	Definition
astronaut	A person who travels and works in space.
inequality	When something is not equal or fair.
lunar module	A spacecraft designed to land on the Moon.
voyage	A long journey, especially on a ship or in a spacecraft.
launch	To start something off or send it forward.
achievement	Something good that has been accomplished, especially through hard work.
Year 1 and 2	How has Fulbourn changed over time?
Word	Definition
lifetime	The whole period that a person is alive.
living memory	A time that can be remembered by people who are still alive.
charity	Charity is all about helping others through giving money, time or goods to those who are less fortunate or in need.
local	The places near to where you live or go to school.
parish	A neighbourhood's special church community.
village	A small settlement that has houses, a place of worship and a central meeting point.
legacy	The impact or influence of a person, civilisation or event on future generations.

Year 3 and 4	What do the bridges of Cambridge tell us about the city's history and how it has changed?
Word	Definition
city	A settlement (often quite large) that has been granted city status by the monarch.
local	The places near to where you live or go to school.
bridge	A structure built to allow people and vehicles to cross over an obstacle like a river, road or valley.
technology	Man-made things that help us solve problems and make life easier.
design	A plan to help people make something.
settlement	A place that humans stay in.
invention	A new thing or idea that someone creates to solve a problem or make life easier.
Year 3 and 4	What did the Anglo-Saxons do for Britain?
Word	Definition
language	A system that people use to communicate or share information.
craftsmanship	The skill that someone uses when they make things with their hands.
culture	The way of life shared by a group of people, including their traditions, beliefs, food, and language.
social class	A way of grouping people in society based on things like level of education, wealth and the job they have.
king	A powerful ruler who led a kingdom and commanded an army.
thane	The lord of his village - his job was to help the kings to rule the land.
churl	People who lived freely in the village.
slave	Considered the least important group of people. These were usually people who could not pay their debts or those captured in battle.
monotheism	The belief in the existence of only one God.
kingdom	There were five important Anglo-Saxon kingdoms. They were Northumbria, Mercia, Wessex, Kent and East Anglia.
hierarchy	A system that organises things into a ranked order, from most important to least important, like a pyramid or a ladder.
burial	The act or ceremony of placing a dead body into a grave in the ground.
invasion	Entering an area by force in order to take over.
settlement	A place that humans stay in.
legacy	The impact or influence of a person, civilisation or event on future generations.
democracy	A system where people choose their leaders by voting in elections.
Year 3 and 4	Is it better to be in school now than in the past?
Word	Definition
Victorian	Relating to the reign of Queen Victoria.
education	The process of acquiring knowledge and developing skills.

technology	Man-made things that help us solve problems and make life easier.
slate	A small, thin, flat piece of dark grey rock (set in a wooden frame) that children in school used to write on.
cane	A long, thin stick used by teachers as a tool for punishment in schools.
dunce cap	A tall, cone-shaped paper or cloth hat, often with the letter 'D' or the word 'dunce' written on it, that students in Victorian schools were forced to wear as a punishment.
abacus	A traditional counting frame used to perform arithmetic.
rote learning	A teaching and learning method focused on memorisation through repetition. In Victorian schools, it was a dominant teaching method, particularly for core subjects like the 'three Rs' (reading, writing and arithmetic).
1880 Education Act	Made school attendance compulsory for all children between the ages of five and ten in England and Wales.
rights	A moral or legal entitlement to have or do something.
legacy	The impact or influence of a person, civilisation or event on future generations.
invention	A new thing or idea that someone creates to solve a problem or make life easier.
Year 3 and 4	Who was the better monarch – Henry VIII or Elizabeth I?
Word	Definition
monarchy	When a country is ruled by a king or queen.
monarch	Kings or queens who inherit their positions and rule over a country or kingdom.
Tudor	The time in English history (from 1485 to 1603) when the Tudor royal family ruled England and Wales.
birth right	A particular privilege a person has from birth, especially as an eldest son.
Divine right of kings	A belief that a monarch's right to rule came directly from God.
power	The ability to control or influence others.
The English Reformation	Refers to the religious revolution that changed the way the church was run throughout England, led by Henry VIII.
religion	The belief in and worship of a god or gods.
legacy	The impact or influence of a person, civilisation or event on future generations.
conflict	A serious disagreement or struggle between people, groups or countries, which can be a clash of ideas, interests or even a physical battle.
resolution	The act of solving a problem or a dispute.
democracy	A system where people choose their leaders by voting in elections.
society	A large group of people who live together in an organised way, sharing common rules, interests and ways of life.

Year 3 and 4	Who were the Vikings – invaders, raiders or traders?
Word	Definition
raider	Someone who enters a place suddenly and often by force to steal or take something,
trader	A person who buys and sells goods or services to make a profit.
Norse mythology	A collection of ancient stories and beliefs belonging to the Vikings who lived in Northern Europe.
longhouse	A long, narrow, rectangular building that served as the home for an extended Viking family, who would also often share the space with their farm animals.
longboat	A fast, long and narrow wooden boat used by the Vikings for raiding, trading, and exploring.
conflict	A serious disagreement or struggle between people, groups or countries, which can be a clash of ideas, interests or even a physical battle.
resolution	The act of solving a problem or a dispute.
invasion	Entering an area by force in order to take over.
settlement	A place that humans stay in.
religion	The belief in and worship of a god or gods.
society	A large group of people who live together in an organised way, sharing common rules, interests and ways of life.
Year 3 and 4	Was the industrial revolution positive for everyone?
Word	Definition
industrialisation	A change from a mainly agricultural society into a society based on larger scale manufacturing in mills and factories.
migration	The movement of people from one place to another.
innovation	The process of coming up with creative ideas or new ways of doing things.
economy	How a country or place manages its money and resources by making, buying and selling things.
trade	The act of buying, selling or exchanging goods and services.
legacy	The impact or influence of a person, civilisation or event on future generations.
invention	A new thing or idea that someone creates to solve a problem or make life easier.

Year 5 and 6	Why was the Battle of Britain a turning point in WWII?
Word	Definition
significant event	Something important that happens and things change as a result.
dictator	Someone who has absolute power and makes all the rules.
vote	When a person expresses his or her choice about something.
election	When people vote in order to choose someone for an important job.
territory	A territory is an area of land that is controlled by a particular country, ruler or group of people.
border	An invisible line that separates two areas, regions or countries.
propaganda	A form of communication used to persuade people to think or act in a certain way, often by using biased or emotional messages.
victory	Winning a war or battle.
ration	A fixed or limited amount of something, especially food or other essential goods, that each person is allowed to have during a time of shortage.
surrender	To stop fighting in a battle or war and admit that the other side has won.
allies	A person, group, or country that works together with another to achieve a common goal.
ideologies	A set of ideas and beliefs that a group of people share about how society should be organised and run.
persecute	To treat a person or group of people in a cruel, unfair or harmful way over a long period of time.
oppression	When a person or group with a lot of power uses that power in a cruel, unfair or unjust way to control or harm others.
evacuate	To move people away from a dangerous place to a safer place.
war	When countries or other large groups of people use weapons to fight each other.
invasion	Entering an area by force in order to take over.
settlement	A place that humans stay in.
conflict	A serious disagreement or struggle between people, groups or countries, which can be a clash of ideas, interests or even a physical battle.
resolution	The act of solving a problem or a dispute.
democracy	A system where people choose their leaders by voting in elections.
Year 5 and 6	How did life in Britain change from the Stone Age to the Iron Age?
Word	Definition
tribe	A group of people, families or villages that share the same language, social customs, and ancestors.
nomadic	People who move from place to place instead of living in one particular place (often to find food).
prehistoric	The period of time before written records began.
hunter-gatherer	A person who gets their food by hunting wild animals, fishing and gathering wild plants, fruits, and berries.

archaeology	The study of the past using the things people made, used and left behind.
invention	A new thing or idea that someone creates to solve a problem or make life easier.
achievement	Something good that has been accomplished, especially through hard work.
society	A large group of people who live together in an organised way, sharing common rules, interests and ways of life.
religion	The belief in and worship of a god or gods.
Year 5 and 6	How similar and different were the Maya and the people of Britain at the same time?
Word	Definition
ancient civilisation	The first settled and stable communities that became the basis for later states, nations and empires.
empire	A large group of countries or territories ruled by a single ruler or government.
conquer	To take control of a place or people by force.
conquistador	A Spanish conqueror who travelled to the Americas long ago to conquer land and find treasure like gold.
hierarchy	A system that organises things into a ranked order, from most important to least important, like a pyramid or a ladder.
sacrifice	An offering of something as a religious act.
ritual	A religious ceremony consisting of a series of actions.
religion	The belief in and worship of a god or gods.
society	A large group of people who live together in an organised way, sharing common rules, interests and ways of life.
conflict	A serious disagreement or struggle between people, groups or countries, which can be a clash of ideas, interests or even a physical battle.
resolution	The act of solving a problem or a dispute.
Year 5 and 6	Would everyone have liked to live in Ancient Greece?
Word	Definition
sculpture	A three-dimensional piece of art that is made by shaping materials such as stone.
philosophy	The Ancient Greek world saw the birth of philosophy which is the art of thinking about life and the world we are in.
medicine	The science or practice of the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease.
myths	The stories that the Ancient Greeks told about their gods. They often explained events or gave reasons for things happening in the world.
Acropolis	A highly rocky mound in Athens that is home to many temples including the Parthenon.
Mount Olympus	Believed to be the home of the Ancient Greek gods.
ancient civilisation	The first settled and stable communities that became the basis for later states, nations and empires.

city state	Greece was split into separate groups called city states. They made their own rules, had their own laws and often clashed with each other.
temple	A building devoted to the worship of a god or gods.
democracy	A system where people choose their leaders by voting in elections.
legacy	The impact or influence of a person, civilisation or event on future generations.
religion	The belief in and worship of a god or gods.
society	A large group of people who live together in an organised way, sharing common rules, interests and ways of life.
Year 5 and 6	What would our lives be like if the Romans had not existed?
Word	Definition
army	A large, organised group of soldiers with the main job of defending a country or area of land.
soldier	A person who is a member of an army.
conquer	To take control of a place or people by force.
pioneer	A person who does something for the first time.
aqueduct	A large, man-made structure that carries water over a long distance.
empire	A large group of countries or territories ruled by a single ruler or government.
hereditary emperor	A ruler (emperor) whose position is passed down automatically through their family, usually from parent to child.
democracy	A system where people choose their leaders by voting in elections.
legacy	The impact or influence of a person, civilisation or event on future generations.
conflict	A serious disagreement or struggle between people, groups or countries, which can be a clash of ideas, interests or even a physical battle.
resolution	The act of solving a problem or a dispute.
invasion	Entering an area by force in order to take over.
settlement	A place that humans stay in.
Year 5 and 6	Why did the Ancient Egyptian civilisation stand the test of time for so long?
Word	Definition
irrigation	The supply of water to land or crops to help growth. In Ancient Egypt, farmers built channels and walls to trap the Nile's seasonal floodwaters in basins.
pyramids	Monumental tombs for pharaohs to ensure their safe passage to the afterlife.
hieroglyphics	A writing system that uses pictures and symbols instead of letters and words.
papyrus	A material, similar to thick paper, that was used in ancient times as a writing material.
solar calendar	A calendar based on the sun.
ancient civilisation	The first settled and stable communities that became the basis for later states, nations and empires.

pharaoh	A ruler in Ancient Egypt.
afterlife	Many ancient Egyptians believed that there was a place they went to when they died.
mummification	A special process used to preserve a dead body. This was an important part of ancient cultures' beliefs about life after death.
legacy	The impact or influence of a person, civilisation or event on future generations.
invention	A new thing or idea that someone creates to solve a problem or make life easier.
achievement	Something good that has been accomplished, especially through hard work.
democracy	A system where people choose their leaders by voting in elections.
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General Historical Vocabulary		
First introduced in…		
Year 1 and Year 2	Year 3 and Year 4	Year 5 and Year 6
before	interpretation	evaluate
after	continuity	conclude
yesterday	era/period	judgement
today	decade	justify
tomorrow	century	hypothesise
old	primary source	
new	secondary source	
past	BCE (before Common Era)	
present	CE (Common Era)	
future	fact	
modern	opinion	
change	bias	
compare		
contrast		
similarity		
difference		
cause		
consequence		
significance		
eyewitness		
evidence		
artefact		
event		

timeline		
chronological order		