

Who was Helen Keller and why was she important?

Year 1- Autumn 2026

During this project, children will learn the story of Helen Keller and explore how she learned to communicate. They will also learn about the story of her good friend, Alexander Graham Bell, whose inventions and ideas helped Helen communicate, before understanding how Helen became an important campaigner for people's rights. They will then learn more about Louis Braille, the inventor of the reading and writing system that was so important to Helen, before using Braille to make their classroom more accessible for visually impaired people. The children will finally learn about Helen's influence on the world and how other people have been inspired by her life.

National Curriculum objectives to be taught:

English

Apply phonic knowledge and skills as the route to decode words
Develop pleasure in reading, motivation to read, vocabulary and understanding
Participate in discussion about what is read to them, taking turns and listening to what others say
Sit correctly at a table, holding a pencil comfortably and correctly
Begin to form lower-case letters
Form capital letters
Write lists and labels

Maths

Sort objects, Count objects, Count objects from a larger group, Represent objects, Recognise numbers as words, Count on from any number, 1 more than, Count backwards within 10, 1 less, Compare groups by matching, Fewer, more, same, Less than, greater than, equal to, Compare numbers, Order objects and numbers, The number line

Science

Everyday Materials -

A material is what an object is made from. –
Everyday materials include wood, plastic, glass, metal, water, rock, brick, paper and fabric. –
Materials with different properties have different uses. –
Materials have different properties, such as hard or soft; stretchy or stiff; rough or smooth; opaque or transparent; bendy or rigid; waterproof or not waterproof. –
Compare and group together a variety of everyday materials on the basis of their simple physical properties.

Science

Human Senses -

Humans are living things. They belong to a group of animals called mammals.
-Humans normally have the same body parts.
-Humans look different from each other. -The basic body parts are the head, arms, legs, nose, eyes, ears, mouth, hands and feet. –
Different animal groups have some common body parts.

<u>Art & DT</u> Use drawing, painting and sculpture to develop and share their ideas, experiences and imagination -Select from and use a wide range of materials and components, including construction materials, textiles and ingredients, according to their characteristics. - Construct simple structures, models or other products using a range of materials.	<u>Computing</u> Recognise common uses of information technology beyond school -Use technology safely and respectfully, keeping personal information private; identify where to go for help and support when they have concerns about content on the internet or other online technologies
<u>Music</u> . Use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes -Play tuned and untuned instruments musically -Listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music -Experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the inter related dimensions of music.	
<u>History</u> Learn about changes within living memory. Where appropriate, these should be used to reveal aspects of change in national life. Learn about events beyond living memory that are significant nationally or globally. Learn about significant historical events, people and places in their own locality. Learn about the lives of significant individuals in the past who have contributed to national and international achievements. Some should be used to compare aspects of life in different periods.	
<u>Geography</u> . Use basic geographical vocabulary to refer to key physical features, including: beach, cliff, coast, forest, hill, mountain, sea, ocean, river, soil, valley, vegetation, season and weather. -Use aerial photographs and plan perspectives to recognise landmarks and basic human and physical features; devise a simple map; and use and construct basic symbols in a key.	
<u>RE</u> How should we care for the world and for others, and why does it matter? Why does Christmas matter to Christians?	
<u>PE</u> Dance – Perform dances using simple movement patterns. Master basic movements including running, jumping, throwing and catching, as well as developing balance, agility and co-ordination	