

# Pathfinders - Children's Champion

What

I

Should

Know

Dimensions  
CURRICULUM



Children's  
Champion



The Story of  
Thomas Barnardo

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## Overview

Children's Champion is a history-based theme, with a focus on the four competencies of courage, commitment, creativity and community, integrating the subjects of PSHE, drama, English and music. The story of Thomas Barnardo, famous for providing homes and education for poor children in Victorian Britain, is both inspiring and relevant.

## Where?

Where did Thomas Barnardo live?

- Thomas Barnardo was born in Dublin, Ireland in 1845.
- He moved from Ireland to London in 1866, where he trained to be a doctor, with the intention of being a medical missionary in China.
- He then stayed in London for the rest of his life.



## Who?

Who was Dr Barnardo?

- During his time training to be a doctor in London, Barnardo saw many children living in poor conditions without food, water, clothing, shelter and no education. This deeply troubled Dr Barnardo and led him to abandon his training as a doctor and, instead, devote himself to helping children living in poverty. As a result, the 'Ragged School' was created, providing poor children with a basic free education and he then went on to open his first home for boys. Later, after marrying his wife, Syrie, he opened a home for girls which enabled all children in poverty to now have, not only an education, but also shelter, warmth and care.
- Dr Barnardo soon became an inspiration to many and, after his death in 1905, his legacy lives on through the Barnardo's charity,



<https://www.historyextra.com/period/victorian/escaping-the-workhouse-the-victorian-war-of-child-poverty/>

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## How?

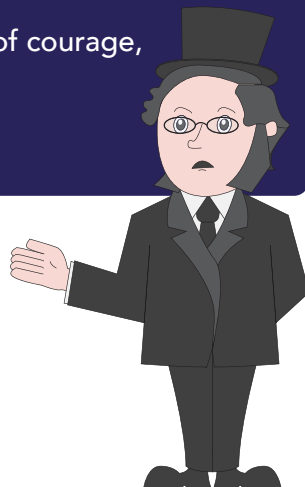
### How can I help Barnardo's charity?

- Visit Barnardo's fundraising page on their website and help them to raise money:  
<https://www.barnardos.org.uk/>
- Give money to the charity through their website:  
<https://www.barnardos.org.uk/>
- Donate clothes, shoes, toys, books etc. to a local Barnardo's charity shop.



## Knowledge and Understanding

- To know and be able to retell the life story of Thomas Barnardo
- To know what the main achievements of Thomas Barnardo were
- To understand the contribution Thomas Barnardo made to the care of children
- To understand the way in which the past impacts on the present
- To understand the importance of courage, commitment and community



## Vocabulary

**Adoption / Fostering:** To bring up and look after a child that is not a person's own by birth

**Boarding Out:** To be taken in by a host family (an early form of Fostering)

**Child Evacuee:** A child taken away from a place of danger

**Donation:** Something that is given to charity

**Epidemic / Pandemic:** A disease that affects a community, a whole country or even the world

**Era:** A long and distinct period of history

**Fundraise:** To raise money for a charity

**Hardship:** Severe suffering or poverty

**Medical Missionary:** A member of a religious group that is sent to a particular area to promote their faith, whilst giving medical treatment and care

**Orphan:** A child who has no living parents

**Poor:** To not have enough money to live at a normal or comfortable standard

**Poverty:** To be extremely poor

**Society:** The community of people living in the same area and having shared laws, traditions and organisations

**Wealthy:** To have a lot of money; to be rich