

KS2 Census

Investigation Activity



What Is the Census?

The census is a count of the all the households and all the people living in England and Wales.

It is carried out every 10 years by the Office for National Statistics.

Forms are sent out to each household and must be completed to record who is present in a house on one specific night of the year. This ensures that nobody is counted twice.

Population counts have been happening for thousands of years but the first census in England and Wales was taken in 1841.

People worried about sharing their information so it was agreed that census records would be kept confidential for 100 years.

We can see information in the census records from 1841 to 1921. The 1921 Census was released this year which is what we're discussing!

You can look at these census records by visiting **The National Archives** website.

Why Do We Have a Census?



Census material can be used in many different ways.

It gives important information to the government and other organisations so that they can plan for the future.

The census tells the government how many people live in the country and how old they are. This helps the government to plan things, for example how many hospitals and parks they may need to build in the years ahead or the number of new houses that may be required in a particular area.

How Can We Use the Census Records?

The census counts the number of people in a household but also records a whole range of information about them, including their ages, occupations and relationships. This makes census records a fascinating tool for historians, who can use them to find out about the past.

We can use census records to:

- trace individual people and find out more about their lives;
- compare and contrast different places in England and Wales at various times in history;
- learn more about how communities and societies change over time.



What is interesting about the 1921 Census?

The 1921 Census: the largest census release ever in England and Wales

On 19 June 1921, close to 38 million individuals in England and Wales completed a census return. From 6 January 2022 the details of those households will be available to search and view online for the first time.

1921

This unique snapshot lets us step back 100 years and witness up close a key moment in the lives of those who had survived the First World War, and who were embarking on a new decade.

The 1921 Census provides greater detail than any of the previous censuses, asking additional questions about marital status, employment and education including:

Children: Unlike earlier censuses, the 1921 Census asked for the exact age of children (in both years and months). And following the introduction of the 1918 Education Act, it also asked for the educational status of children aged 15 and younger for the first time.















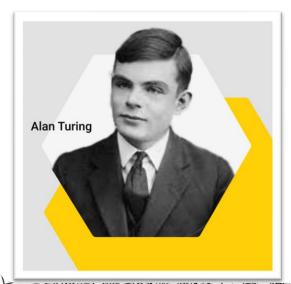
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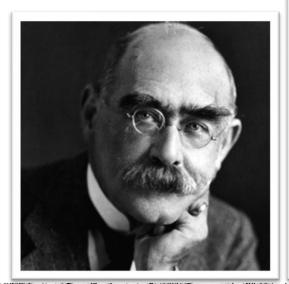
Who appears in the 1921 Census from Sussex?

There are some really interesting people who appear in the census showing as either being from or living in Sussex in 1921.

These include:

- Helena Normanton QC
- Rudyard Kipling Writer
- Alan Turing mathematician



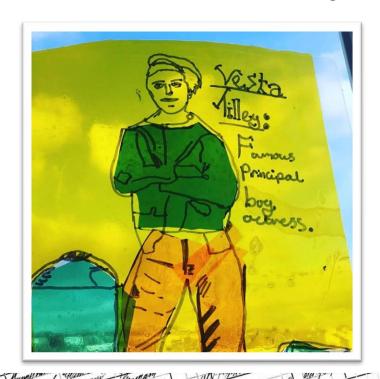


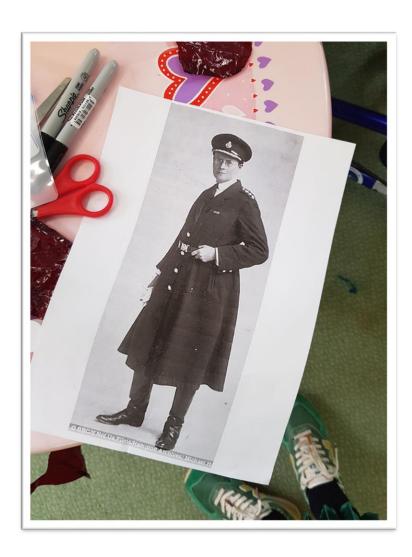


Activity: Making stained glass

Today we are going to each make a piece of stained glass with someone we've found from the 1921 census as a way to remember someone from our Sussex past.

You can make this with any one of the pictures we'll be sharing shortly. You will take one each home with you.





Steps:

- 1. Pick a photograph
- 2. Open up plastic sheet
- 3. Put photograph inside clear plastic sheet
- 4. Take magic marker and draw the outline of the image (as much detail as you can including name of the person)
 - 5. Take picture out
- 6. Take coloured plastic and cut into shapes to fill the outline you've drawn
 - 7. Put these inside the clear plastic sheet
 - 8. Laminate
 - 9. Write your name on the bottom!







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