

History

Key stage 3 & 4 Curriculum Information

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History fires students' curiosity and imagination, moving and inspiring them with the dilemmas, choices and beliefs of people in the past. It helps students develop their own identities through an understanding of history at personal, local, national and international levels. It helps them to ask and answer questions of the present by engaging with the past. Students find out about the history of their community, Britain, Europe and the world. They develop a chronological overview that enables them to make connections within and across different periods and societies. They investigate Britain's relationships with the wider world, and relate past events to the present day. As they develop their understanding of the nature of historical study, students ask and answer important questions, evaluate evidence, identify and analyse different interpretations of the past, and learn to substantiate any arguments and judgements they make. They appreciate why they are learning what they are learning and can debate its significance. History prepares students for the future, equipping them with knowledge and skills that are prized in adult life, enhancing employability and developing an ability to take part in a democratic society. It encourages mutual understanding of the historic origins of our ethnic and cultural diversity, and helps students become confident and questioning individuals.

All content is taught through weekly 95 minute lessons and independent personalised homework projects designed to improve key skills and deepen student understanding of class topics.

Key Stage 3

At Key Stage 3 (Yr7 & Yr8) students study a range of enquiries based on the National Curriculum.

These include:

- How effectively did William the Conqueror gain control of England?
- Was the Black Death a disaster for everyone?
- Who was Jack the Ripper and how did he get away with murder?
- Were rats the biggest health problem in the trenches?
- Why did Hitler come to power in 1933?

This helps to equip students with the requisite knowledge and skills that are needed for GCSE History.

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The GCSE History course is taught in 95 minute lessons and weekly homework using Google Classroom which provides students with past papers, revision guides and a host of other resources.

Key Stage 4

At Key Stage 4 students follow the Edexcel A Modern World course. The course is assessed by three 75 minute examinations (Unit 1-3) and a Controlled Assessment (Unit 4). Each Unit is worth 25% of the final grade.

Unit 1 The Cold War.

Key topics

- How did the Cold War develop? 1943–56.
- Three Cold War crises: Berlin, Cuba and Czechoslovakia c1957–69.
- Why did the Cold War end? The invasion of Afghanistan (1979) to the collapse of the Soviet Union (1991).

Unit 2a Germany 1918-39.

Key topics

- The Weimar Republic, 1918-33
- Hitler and the Growth of the Nazis,
- 1918-33 The Nazi dictatorship,
- 1933-39 Nazi domestic policies, 1933-39

Unit 3c The Transformation of British Society 1951-79

Key topics

- British Society and Economy in the 1950's
- Education, work and labour relations 1960-79
- Media, communications and leisure 1960-79
- Reasons for social change 1960-79

Unit 4 CA8: Crime, policing and protest in England c1886–c1926

Progression:

History is still an academically respected subject, as well as being highly valued and respected by employers who demand History students for the unique combination of skills they have gained during their studies. This provides a solid foundation for future study at A/S and A Level.

Historical skills can also provide an excellent foundation for a number of popular careers. A knowledge of current affairs is useful for careers such as Journalism, Broadcasting, and the Civil and Diplomatic Service; historical skills like research are useful for careers in Law, Publishing, Management, and Librarianship; and of course careers where a knowledge of the past is important include Architecture, Archive work, Heritage jobs, TV/radio programme research, Conservation/natural history.