



History

The History Department aims to inspire all students with a fascination for human experiences and cultures in the past by developing critical and enquiring minds. Learning in History focuses around key enquiries which promote conceptual historical thinking and develop core skills, such as reasoning, argument and communication.

Key Stage 3

Our Key Stage 3 course is designed to enthuse and inspire students about various diverse topics and periods. Over the course of the three years, we develop the students' appreciation and abilities within History through a combination of overview and depth studies. One of the wider aims is to allow students to develop their own frameworks and narratives of the past, including English, British and World History.

In Year Seven, students study History from 2000BC through to the Stuart Age. The Year Eight course begins with a study of the manner in which the United Kingdom was reformed under the Tudors and the rule of Oliver Cromwell before moving on to the reasons for the American and French Revolutions. More modern History is encountered during Year Nine with studies on the Wider Suffrage Movement and The World Wars and Holocaust. Units of study and lessons are structured around key enquiries aimed at providing challenge and fascination within lessons, such as:

'We're all Britons Roman in Roman Britain?'

'Did the Reformation occur solely because of religion?'

'What was the biggest turning point in the power of Parliament?'

'Were the megalomaniacal actions of monarchs responsible for revolutions in the eighteenth century?'

'Why did it take so long for women to gain the right to vote?'



Key Stage 4

The GCSE History course aims to build upon the conceptual understanding and skills that students have developed at Key Stage 3 and continues the enquiry based approach through four units of study. The current examination board is Edexcel and the units of study are:

Unit 1: History of Medicine in Britain, c.1250 to the modern day

Unit 2: Henry VIII and his ministers

Unit 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1919-1939

Unit 4: Superpower Relations: The Cold War, c.1945-1991

Key Stage 5

The A-level History courses consist of 4 modules. Three are examination based and the fourth comprises the coursework unit. The units currently studied aim to extend, contrast and widen the work that has been undertaken at GCSE and lower down in the school. The units are:

Unit 1: Russia 1917 - 1991 from the Lenin to Yeltsin

Unit2: Mao's China, 1949 - 1976

Unit 3: Britain, losing and gaining an Empire, 1763 - 1914

Unit 4: Coursework on 'Was Germany to blame for the outbreak of the First World War?'