

Why do we teach History?

We teach history to learn about the past through a social, political and cultural lens, looking at remarkable eras and empires but also significant individuals and moments in time closer to home.

We aim to foster a love of learning by focusing on events both local and global that helps our students understand the modern world and how it was shaped so students can develop skills in empathy, tolerance and critical thinking.

Our curriculum is rigorous and knowledge-based but focused through enquiry questions, giving students the tools to think critically about the past to form judgments.

What do we teach in History?

Our lessons are designed to be varied both in their content and in their delivery. We teach a range of both depth studies (for example, America in the 1920s to Year 9), and breadth studies (Immigration and the nation-78AD to present in Year 8) to provide students with a rich experience of learning about History.

Our curriculum is planned around progress with a clear aim to create a successful trajectory between Years 7-13. Our Year 7 offering has been designed to transition well from KS2 in terms of content. Previous topics are regularly revisited to help students draw parallels between different topics and time periods. Our End of Year Exams are designed to work as building blocks for each year and help prepare students for the challenge of revising for more substantial exams later on in their school journey

How do we teach History? (Key concepts and skills)

In History we teach students through **second order concepts**. These shape our inquiry questions and organise our subject knowledge. These are chronology, similarity and difference, cause and consequence, change and continuity, evidence, interpretations and significance.

We also build **skills** in analysis and evaluation. We do this by looking at the usefulness of sources, different historical interpretations and perspectives of events and through a curriculum that is knowledge rich.

We build skills in **extended writing** getting students to plan and write balanced arguments using evidence and through focusing on different perspectives to come to an overall judgement.

How is History personalised for our learners?

Our curriculum is intended to tell the experiences of everyone. This is shown through the emphasis often marginalised groups in history such as the role of women and ethnic minorities. Our school intake is diverse and we wish to reflect that in our curriculum offer. We have been working hard to 'decolonise the curriculum' (for example in Year 7 we spend 2 terms looking in depth at the experience of the British Empire- its origins as well as its legacy).

We plan for a variety of teaching methods that ensure opportunities for collaborative learning (discussion, debate, pair tasks), as well as independent study.



YEAR 7	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Key content	What can we learn about Ancient and Medieval History?	What were the causes and consequences of the Norman Conquest?	What travelled along the Silk Roads?	How did Britain gain an empire?	What do sources reveal about the slave trade?	How did the British Empire decline and what is its legacy?
Key concepts & skills	 Chronology Writing a Point, Evidence, Explain paragraph Similarity and difference 	 Developing basic essay writing skills Causation and Consequence 	 Developing essay writing skills to explain change Change and continuity 	 Developing essay writing skills to explain causation Causation and consequence 	 Developing source inferences and evaluation Using evidence 	 Constructing interpretations using knowledge Interpretations
Summative Assessment	Written assessment	AP1 End of unit test /40	Written assessment	Written assessment	Written assessment	End of Year exam / 40
Builds on	KS2 focus on Ancient Greece Introduction to historical skills	Previous term studying to period up to 1066	Medieval and ancient focus of Autumn 1 and 2	Links to Empires of Spring 1 and Similarity and difference explored in Autumn Term 1	Context for evaluating the role and impact of the British Empire	Previous term context for evaluating the role and impact of the British Empire
Builds towards	Gives background to Norman Conquest Source skills revisited later in the year	Provides students with an understanding of challenges/ opportunities of monarchs before learning about the Tudors Start of essay writing skills	Empire building and global history that begins in Empire in Spring 2	Case study of looking at the slave trade and reasons for abolition	Sets context for evaluating the role and impact of the British Empire	Deepening source skills Studying world events in more detail



YEAR 8	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Key content	What were the causes and consequences of the English Civil War?	What was the impact of the Russian Revolution?	How far did the Industrial Revolution improve life in Britain?	Why did it take so long for women to get the vote?	Immigration and the Nation: What is Britishness?	How have protest movements shaped the world?
Key concepts & skills	 Judgement making using causation Causation and consequence 	Consequence writing skillsConsequence	Essay writing skills focusing on changeChange and continuity	Analysis writing skillsUsing sources	Comparative writing skillsSimilarity and difference	Developing causal languageSignificance
Summative Assessment	Written assessment	AP1 End of unit test /40	Written assessment	Written assessment	Written assessment	AP2: End of Year exam /40
Builds on	Norman Conquest study of key battles and impacts Source skills introduced in Year 7	Background of conflict in one country, unrest caused by an unpopular ruler	Some KS2 study on the Victorians (myths on health etc.) Background to inequality and discontentment by workers studied with the Industrial Revolution	Spring terms focused on Victorian era set context for Edwardian votes for women	Empire studies in Year 7 Persecution of groups explored in Summer 1	All previous year 8 topics and Spring 2 abolition movements
Builds towards	Background of conflict in one country- visited next term with Russian Revolution and Civil War	Understanding of worker discontent and disparity of wealth (explored with industrial revolution) next term	Case studies on key Victorians Public Health in this period revisited in Year 10 (Medicine course)	Fighting for rights explored in Year 8 Autumn 2, and later in the A-Level course	Understanding of 20 th century History (Year 9) Thematic Study links to GCSE Paper 1 Thematic Unit	Thematic Study links to GCSE Paper 1 Thematic Unit Fighting for rights in the A-Level course



YEAR 9	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Key content	What were the key battles of WW1?	Did America experience a Golden Age in the 1920s?	What can sources tell us about the Holocaust?	What was the most significant turning point of WW2?	Local Study: How did the Blitz affect London?	Kaiser to Unification: What can 100 years of German history reveal about one country?
Key concepts & skills	Writing focusing on cause and impactCausation	 Essay writing skills focusing on comparison Similarity and difference 	Developing in source analysis skillsEvidence	 Essay writing skills focusing on turning points and judgement Significance 	Using evidence in extended writingEvidence	 Writing focusing on Historical breadth Change and continuity
Summative Assessment	Written assessment	AP1: End of unit test /50	Written assessment	Written assessment	Written assessment	Written assessment
Builds on	Votes for Women study on role of women in the war (Year 8, Summer 1)	USA's role in WW1 (Year 9 Autumn 1) Colonisation and independence of the USA (Year 7 Spring 1)	Source skills revisited from previous terms Study of persecuted groups (Autumn 2, Year 9, Summer, Year 8)	Study on WW1 Study on the Holocaust WW2 explored in context on collapse of British Empire (Spring 1, Year 7)	USA in the 1920s Empire studies in Year 7 Persecution of groups explored in Summer 1	USA in the 1920s Empire studies in Year 7 Persecution of groups explored in Summer 1
Builds towards	Study of WW2 Study of 1920s America	Big study of the USA (thematic unit) -Summer 2	Study of WW2 GCSE Unit on Weimar and Nazi Germany (Year 10)	Depth study on the Blitz and London Background to Cold War (Year 11)	Intro to A-Level course Thematic Study links to GCSE Paper 1 Thematic Unit	Intro to A-Level course Thematic Study links to GCSE Paper 1 Thematic Unit



YEAR 10	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Key content	Paper 1: Medieval and Renaissance Medicine 1200-1700	Paper 1: 18 th and 19 th Century Medicine, 20 th century Medicine	Paper 1: Injuries and illness on the Western Front, Overview	Paper 3: Weimar Germany 1918-29 (Key Topic 1 and 2)	Paper 3: Rise of the Nazis 1919-32 (Key topic 2 and 3)	Paper 3: The creation of a police state 1933-39 (Key topic 3)
Key concepts & skills	 Chronology Causation and consequence Significance Change and continuity Source skills Essay writing skills 	 Chronology Causation and consequence Significance Change and continuity Source skills Essay writing skills 	 Chronology Causation and consequence Significance Change and continuity Source skills Essay writing skills 	 Chronology Causation and consequence Significance Change and continuity Source skills Interpretation skills 	 Chronology Causation and consequence Significance Change and continuity Source skills Interpretation skills 	 Chronology Causation and consequence Significance Change and continuity Source skills Interpretation skills
Summative Assessment	End of topic tests at the end of each unit	End of topic tests at the end of each unit	Full Medicine paper (in-class)	End of topic tests at the end of each unit	End of topic tests at the end of each unit	Centre assessments (Medicine and Germany)
Builds on	Thematic studies in Year 8 and 9 Victorian Medicine explored in Spring 1 Year 8	Thematic studies in Year 8 and 9 Victorian Medicine explored in Spring 1 Year 8	Thematic studies in Year 8 and 9 Victorian Medicine explored in Spring 1 Year 8	Study on WW1 and WW2 (Year 9) Study on the Holocaust (Year 9) Source skills and causation skills (previous term)	Study on WW1 and WW2 (Year 9) Study on the Holocaust (Year 9) Source skills and causation skills (previous term)	Study on WW1 and WW2 (Year 9) Study on the Holocaust (Year 9) Source skills and causation skills (previous term)
Builds towards	A-Level study of Poverty and Public Health Source skills and causation explored in Paper 3.	A-Level study of Poverty and Public Health Source skills and causation explored in Paper 3.	A-Level study of Poverty and Public Health Source skills and causation explored in Paper 3.	Background to Cold War (Year 11) Holocaust coursework (year 13)	Background to Cold War (Year 11) Holocaust coursework (year 13)	Background to Cold War (Year 11) Holocaust coursework (year 13)



YEAR 11	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1
Key content	Paper 3: Life in Nazi Germany (Key topic 4) AND Paper 2: Superpower relations and the Cold War (Key topic 1)	Paper 2: Superpower relations and the Cold War (Key topic 2 and 3)	Paper 2: Early Elizabethan England (Key topic 1 and 2)	Paper 2: Early Elizabethan England (Key topic 2 and 3)	Revision
Key concepts & skills	 Chronology Causation and consequence Significance Change and continuity Essay writing skills 	 Chronology Causation and consequence Significance Change and continuity Essay writing skills 	 Chronology Causation and consequence Significance Change and continuity Source skills Essay writing skills 	 Chronology Causation and consequence Significance Change and continuity Essay writing skills 	 Chronology Causation and consequence Significance Change and continuity Essay writing skills Source and interpretation skills
Summative Assessment	End of topic tests at the end of each unit	Full Elizabeth exam paper at the end of the unit	End of topic tests at the end of each unit	Full Cold War exam paper at the end of the unit	Regular Walking Talking Mocks and Practice exams in lessons
Builds on	Year 7 study of the Tudors Year 7 study on the start of Empire Key skills listed above	Year 7 study of the Tudors Year 7 study on the start of Empire Key skills listed above	Thematic studies in Year 8 and 9 Russian Revolution course (Year 8) WW2 (Year 9)	Thematic studies in Year 8 and 9 Russian Revolution course (Year 8) WW2 (Year 9)	Study on WW1 and WW2 (Year 9) Study on the Holocaust (Year 9) Source skills and causation skills (previous term)
Builds towards	Exam skills revisited in revision of Medicine and Cold War	Exam skills revisited in revision of Medicine and Cold War	A-Level course on America 1917-96	A-Level course on America 1917-96	



YEAR 12	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Key content	Paper 1: In search of the American Dream USA 1917-96 Paper 3: Rebellion and disorder under the Tudors, 1485-1602	Paper 1: In search of the American Dream USA 1917-96 Paper 3: Rebellion and disorder under the Tudors, 1485-1602	Paper 1: In search of the American Dream USA 1917-96 Paper 3: Rebellion and disorder under the Tudors, 1485-1602	Paper 1: In search of the American Dream USA 1917-96 Paper 3: Rebellion and disorder under the Tudors, 1485-1602	Paper 1: In search of the American Dream USA 1917-96 Paper 3: Rebellion and disorder under the Tudors, 1485-1602	Intro to coursework Paper 2: India and the journey to independence 1914-48
Key concepts & skills	 Chronology Causation and consequence Significance Change and continuity Essay writing skills 	 Chronology Causation and consequence Significance Change and continuity Essay writing skills Source analysis skills Interpretation skills 	 Chronology Causation and consequence Significance Change and continuity Source skills Essay writing skills 	 Chronology Causation and consequence Significance Change and continuity Essay writing skills 	 Chronology Causation and consequence Significance Change and continuity Essay writing skills Source and interpretation skills 	 Chronology Causation and consequence Significance Change and continuity Essay writing skills Source and interpretation skills
Summative Assessment	End of topic tests at the end of each unit	November exams- timed exams for Paper 1 and Paper 3	End of topic tests at the end of each unit, February mock exams	End of topic tests at the end of each unit	June mock exams	June Mock Exams
Builds on	Paper 1: USA studies in Year 7 (Empire) and Year 9 Paper 2: Empire studies in Year 7, WW1 and WW2 (Year 9)	Paper 1: USA studies in Year 7 (Empire) and Year 9 Paper 2: Empire studies in Year 7, WW1 and WW2 (Year 9)	Paper 1: USA studies in Year 7 (Empire) and Year 9 Paper 2: Empire studies in Year 7, WW1 and WW2 (Year 9)	Paper 1: USA studies in Year 7 (Empire) and Year 9 Paper 2: Empire studies in Year 7, WW1 and WW2 (Year 9)	Paper 1: USA studies in Year 7 (Empire) and Year 9 Paper 3: Year 8 studies on the Victorians	Coursework (Year 9 study on the Holocaust)
Builds towards	November exams	February mock exams	June exams	June exams	June exams	June exams



YEAR 13	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1
Key content	Paper 2: India and the journey to independence 1914-48 Coursework	Paper 2: India and the journey to independence 1914-48 Coursework	Paper 2: India and the journey to independence 1914-48 Coursework	REVISION: Paper 1: In search of the American Dream USA 1917- 96 to independence 1914-48 Paper 3: Rebellion and disorder under the Tudors, 1485-1602	Revision: Paper 1: In search of the American Dream USA 1917-96 Paper 2: India and the journey to independence 1914-48 Paper 3: Rebellion and disorder under the Tudors, 1485-1602
Key concepts & skills	 Chronology Causation and consequence Significance Change and continuity Essay writing skills 	 Chronology Causation and consequence Significance Change and continuity Essay writing skills Source analysis skills Interpretation skills 	 Chronology Causation and consequence Significance Change and continuity Source skills Essay writing skills 	 Chronology Causation and consequence Significance Change and continuity Essay writing skills 	 Chronology Causation and consequence Significance Change and continuity Essay writing skills Source and interpretation skills
Summative Assessment	End of topic tests at the end of each unit	November/December exams- timed exams for Paper 1 and Paper 3	End of topic tests at the end of each unit, February mock exams	April mock exams	
Builds on	Paper 3: Year 12 Summer term work on this topic Coursework: Year 12 Summer 2 background intro and summer holiday work	Paper 3: Previous term's work on poverty Coursework: Visit to archives, previous term's work	Feedback from Autumn exams.	Feedback from Year 12 June exams to structure revision around	All assessed work in the tracker to informs areas that need work
Builds towards	Year 13 exams	Year 13 exams	Year 13 exams	Year 13 exams	Year 13 exams