



HISTORY DEPARTMENT

Curriculum Overview



The curriculum of the school reflects the demands of the National Curriculum. It is designed in order to provide all pupils with a broad, balanced education relevant to their needs both now and in the future.

Departmental Overview

The History Department is comprised of 3 specialist teachers and 4 designated teaching classrooms.

Departmental Staff

Mrs A Walton	Head of Humanities Department
Mrs S Rosenthal	Head of History
Mr D Sharpe	History/Government and Politics Teacher
Ms C Jones	SLT Line Manager

Year 7 History (KS3)

Examination/Specification Board

Reflective of AQA GCSE question stems

Curriculum Overview

Skills baseline assessment using Henry VIII and his problems as the focus topic. Henry VIII was taught in KS2 and the Historical skills needed to develop explanation and analysis should have been put in place at KS2. This assessment does not test knowledge but it will test skills linked to source evaluation and analysis as well as extended writing. The causes and significance of the Battle of Hastings is taught, again focusing on explanation skills. Students will study the impact of the Black Death upon the lives of the peasants in England and appreciate that the disease had a positive as well as a negative impact upon the people of England. The Peasants' Revolt is a causation exercise and explores the motives behind the challenge to authority. Interpretation is then taught in more depth during the study of the English Civil war and the Slave Trade with a particular focus on local history.

- Card sorts for prioritisation
- Categorisation activities
- Extended writing tasks
- Hot seating
- Carousel/ find key information tasks.
- GCSE style questions

Examinations/Key Assessments

- Henry VIII baseline
- Who should be King in 1066?
- Impact of the Peasants revolt.
- Significance of the Slave trade

Homework

Homework is set every two weeks by all staff. If the boy has two Teachers then only one member of staff will provide homework.

How Parents can Help

Help with homework and the use of key terms in homework would be great. Also, trying to develop explanation skills by trying to encourage their children to use relevant knowledge to explain the cause, significance or consequence of an event/ person.

Year 8 History (KS3)

Examination/Specification Board

Reflective of AQA GCSE question stems

Curriculum Overview

The year starts with the causes and the development of WW1. There will be a focus on the short and long term causes of the War. Pupils will develop their analysis of source work and evaluation skills, through focusing on primary evidence in recruitment and propaganda throughout the course of WW1. There will also be a focus on trench life and weapons. Pupils will then explore the social and political impact and changes on American society during the 1920s. This is followed by the rise of Hitler to the position of Chancellor in Germany in 1933. From this there is an investigation into Anti-Semitism through time. There is then a study in to the American entrance into World War Two with a focus on Pearl Harbour. Using Pearl Harbour pupils will display the ability to use causation skills when studying the Atomic bomb. Pupils will be asked to justify if they believed it was form of retaliation, this will be conveyed in an extended piece of writing. There will then be a focus in to the Cold War/Cuban Missile crisis and the Berlin Blockade.

Examinations/Key Assessments

- Causes of WW1
- Causes of the Boom in 1920s America
- The rise of Hitler and the Holocaust
- Significance of the Atomic Bomb? Was America justified in dropping the Atomic bomb?

Homework

Homework is set every two weeks by all staff. If the boy has two Teachers then only one member of staff will provide homework.

How Parents can Help

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Year 9/10/11 History (KS4)

Examination/Specification Board

AQA

Curriculum Overview

Unit 1: Understanding the Modern World Germany 1890-1945, Democracy and Dictatorship (Period study). Conflict and Tension, 1918-1939 (World-wide depth study).

Unit 2: Shaping the Nation Britain: Power and the people: c1170 to the present day (Thematic study) Norman England: c.1066-1100 (British depth study including the historic environment).

Unit 1 is studied in the first year at GCSE. Unit 2 is studied in the second year of GCSE History.

Examinations/Key Assessments

Unit 1 (Paper 1) comprises 50% of final mark.

Unit 2 (Paper 2) comprises 50% of final mark.

Homework

Pupils will have homework set weekly, which will consist of written work, including source questions, preparation for the controlled assessment and revision for the final examinations.

How Parents can Help

- Check that all homework is recorded in a planner and is completed to a good standard.
- Ensure that all preparation is made for the controlled assessment to a high standard.
- Encourage your son to attend additional sessions for revision

Year 12/13 History (KS5)

Examination/Specification Board

OCR

Curriculum Overview

An understanding of history can help us to shape the events of tomorrow. The study of history is both interesting and intellectually rigorous. You will develop the skills of research, assimilation, comprehension and the analysis of a wide range of material, formulation of a reasoned interpretation and the development of an ability to communicate clear and coherent judgement. You will study British and American history, gain an appreciation of the civil rights movement in the USA, gain an understanding of the causes and consequences of the American Revolution, and carry out an historical enquiry on women's suffrage. A Level history can provide you with a great launching pad into University. Careers linked to the study of history include; Lawyer, Journalist, Archaeologist, Teacher, Police Officer, News Researcher to name but a few.

Examinations/Key Assessments

A level History is assessed by a terminal exam.

Homework

Weekly homework and essays are set via Show My Homework. Students will be expected to conduct independent research and reading of topics covered.

How Parents can Help

Encourage your son/daughter to complete all homework assignments in a timely fashion.

Year 12/13 Government & Politics (KS5)

Examination/Specification Board

AQA

Curriculum Overview

The A Level Government and Politics specification is designed to encourage students to develop their critical thinking skills and enhance their ability to interpret, evaluate and comment on the nature of politics. Students acquire knowledge of the structures of authority and power within the political systems of both the United Kingdom and the United States, pupils will study various political ideologies. They are also encouraged to think and debate more widely about how other political systems may differ. In this course students will learn to weigh up evidence against opinion and understand how people's lives are affected by political activity. You will develop a critical awareness of political events and issues.

Examinations/Key Assessments

A Level Government and Politics is assessed by a terminal exam. There will be opportunities to take part in city wide debates with other schools, as well as a visit to the Houses of Parliament, and attend a Question Time session with our local MP.

Homework

Weekly homework and essays are set via Show My Homework. Students will be expected to conduct independent research and reading of topics covered.

How Parents can Help

Encourage your son/daughter to complete all homework assignments in a timely fashion.