

History Curriculum Information

Year 6

In the Autumn term, students embark on a course inspired by 'Medicine Through Time'. Students study common diseases throughout prehistoric, Egyptian, Greek, Roman and the Middle Ages and investigate the different theories on the causes of disease, and how these have been treated historically. This includes researching the forerunners of modern medicine such as Vesalius. They develop their source skills, and learn how views on the causes of disease and, their treatment, changed across the ages. In the Spring term, students will follow the same pattern, whilst looking at Crime and Punishment through time. Students research case studies on famous criminals such as Dick Turpin, and also examine differing interpretations of Robin Hood. Finally, in the summer term, students will study Women Throughout History, and will have the chance to research a woman who has influenced them.

Year 7

During the Autumn term the Year 7 pupils begin their study of Medieval England by examining the impact of the death of Edward the Confessor. After studying the Norman Conquest they look at some of the problems faced by William I as conqueror of England. To support their learning the girls are taken to Warwick Castle to discover what life was like within its walls and how it was defended during times of attack. Students are encouraged to improve key subject and thinking skills through History by learning how to analyse a variety of sources and undertake team investigations.

Year 8

Year 8 pupils study the Tudors, beginning with the end of the Wars of the Roses and an examination of the role of the church in the fifteenth century. The pupils use a variety of primary and secondary evidence, including Tudor portraits to examine the personality and achievements of Henry VIII and learn to interpret allegorical paintings to uncover coded messages. In order to improve the girls' knowledge and understanding of this topic we attend Baddesley Clinton where a re-enactment of Tudor life gives an insight into the sights, sounds and concerns of the time. Building on the students understanding of family trees we trace the end of the Tudor Dynasty and the beginning of the Stuarts studying key events such as the Gunpowder Plot as a personal investigation giving the girls an understanding of the complexities of the past and teaching them to form their own judgements. The French Revolution is the final topic studied in Year 8 and allows students to discover the history and politics of another country while comparing similar concepts to the social and political upheavals of England during the Civil War.



Year 9

The students in Year 9 begin their studies by exploring Britain 1750-1900. They examine the concept of 'Empire', what it meant to Britain and how the wealth generated led to the Industrial Revolution. The students then go on to study slavery. They examine the motives behind selling off human life and have used primary evidence to assess the difficulty of the passage from Africa to America. The abolition movement is studied in detail and the students develop their essay writing skills during this topic. Throughout the second term the students study World War I. They examine the nature of warfare, and in particular examine life in the Trenches. The students then go on to study the Home Front, and examine aspects such as censorship, recruitment and rationing. World War II is studied during the third term and the Holocaust is a particular focal point. The students visit the Holocaust Centre and listen to the eye witness accounts of a survivor to help their understanding of this event.

Year 10 AQA 40451 History B

Modern World History

Unit 1: International Relations: Conflict and Peace in the Twentieth Century

Unit 3: Controlled Assessment

As part of their GCSE course Year 10 students analyse the long-term factors and short-term triggers of World War I. These factors are examined in depth and then the students go on to examine post-war developments in international diplomacy, including the Treaty of Versailles and the work of the League of Nations. The department organises a visit to the Battlefields of Belgium and France to enhance the pupils' contextual awareness of the war and its consequences. Students then go on to Hitler's path to war and look at the causes of World War II. All aspects are related to an understanding of contemporary and modern sources and an analysis of their historical validity. Two pieces of controlled assessment are also undertaken during years 10 and 11. Both pieces of work compare and contrast Britain at War during World War I and World War II.

Year 11 AQA 40452 History B

Modern World History

Unit 2: Depth Studies

Year 11 students undertake two depth studies, the first on the state of Germany at the birth of The Weimar Republic, looking at the economic, social and political impact of World War One. They also examine the threat from extreme parties and how the Weimar government survived such challenges. Students also carry out assessments of how Germany rebuilt its economy during the 1920s and regained its political position in Europe. Finally they study the rise of the Nazi party and the gradual emergence of Hitler as dictator by 1933 and life under Nazi rule up to the start of the Second World War. The second depth study is on the USA 1929-1941 examining



key events such as the economic crises of 1929, the subsequent Great Depression, the political changes under Roosevelt, and the impact of the start of the Second World War.

Year 12 AQA 2040

Unit 1: The Reformation in Europe, c 1500-1564

Students study the religious change and development in the sixteenth century Europe, as exemplified by the emergence of differing forms of Protestantism and of the renewal within the Catholic Church. While developing and building on the knowledge gained at GCSE, students are taught the key skills of independent learning and investigation of complex multifaceted historical issues with a strong emphasis on detailed analysis, evaluation and debate.

Unit 2: The Church in England 1529-1547

During this module students investigate the reasons for, and the extent of, change in the English Church and State. They will understand the impact of both religious reformers and conservatives on the development of the Church and also analyse the role of the State in initiating and carrying through change. Students will also study the relative importance of the contributions of individual such as Henry VIII, Catherine of Aragon, Cardinal Wolsey and the influence of the papacy.

Year 13 AQA HIS3B

Unit 3: The Triumph of Elizabeth: Britain, 1547–1603

During Year 12, students are building skills as well as knowledge in History to give them a firm foundation to embark upon the A2 course which begins with an examination of the Mid-Tudor Crisis. The theme of change and continuity runs throughout the course and the students are asked to evaluate and analyse the reign of Elizabeth I. As a result of their study students are able to offer explanations for the challenges faced by the monarchy, the extent of economic and social change and its consequences and assess the extent of political and religious strength and unity under Elizabeth I.

AQA HIS4X

Unit 4: Historical Enquiry

To end the History A-Level course students investigate a historical issue, which demonstrates an awareness of historiography while using and evaluating a variety of sources. Synoptic understanding is developed by analysis of an issue over a 100 year period. Students are taught the key concepts and issues related to the enquiry title followed by guidance, support and close supervision while the coursework is written up. This element of the course gives students the ability to utilise all of the skills they have learned over the two years to produce a personal independent piece of work which will help to bridge the transition between the Sixth Form and University where work requires greater independence and analytical rigour.

