



HISTORY KS3 Curriculum

A challenging and stimulating curriculum

Understanding history helps you to...know more, look closer, think deeper and write better

What is the aim of the history curriculum?

- ✓ The intention of the KS3 history curriculum is for students to gain a broad understanding of the narrative of British history from the Middle Ages to the 20th Century.
- ✓ Understanding will be underpinned by investigating the following; how people in the past were ruled, how did people in the past live, what did people in the past believe and how do we know about the past.
- ✓ Our curriculum is designed to develop students' chronological understanding of topics through narratives, sources, lively illustrations, differentiated activities and engaging enquiry questions, to inspire students of all abilities.
- ✓ Topics are sequenced chronologically and into thematic and period studies.
- ✓ Our curriculum helps students connect new knowledge to existing knowledge (including KS2) to help further develop students understanding.
- ✓ GCSE skills are embedded and second order concepts are prioritised.
- ✓ History is very concept driven and access to understanding content is dependent on high literacy levels. We therefore focus on developing students' vocabulary of first order concepts each lesson and our planning ensures reference back to 'essential' key terms to reinforce these to students in different contexts.

Importantly, all lessons aim to foster the love of history and develop enquiring minds.

What is included in the history curriculum?

Each topic will be framed around a big enquiry question.

Year 7	Year 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Norman Conquest• Life in the Middle Ages• The Crusades• Tudor England• The Spanish Armada• The English Civil War <p><u>Second order concepts:</u> cause and consequence, change and continuity, similarities and difference and significance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The Industrial Revolution▪ The Slave Trade▪ WWI▪ WWII▪ The Holocaust <p><u>Second order concepts:</u> cause and consequence, change and continuity, diversity, similarities and difference and significance.</p>

How will students be assessed in history?

Impact will be judged around students' abilities to know, understand and explain the narratives they have studied. Judgments will be based on two key pieces of evidence:

- **Knowledge tests – every lesson students will have a low stake quiz and every 5 lessons a more extensive factual recall test. These will test current and prior knowledge from the whole curriculum. Revisiting information helps embed information more effectively.**
- **Every term students will practise a particular GCSE style question stem and then revisit the question in the term to build upon their technique and knowledge.**

Students will have the opportunity to improve on work during directed improvement time.