



History Curriculum Plan

Intent:

Summary of Intent:

To provide a curriculum for students aged 11 - 18 which equips them with the factual, conceptual and disciplinary knowledge of History, which encourages a curiosity about the past and allows them to understand a shared identity and actively engage in British society, and the ideas and institutions which have shaped it. Throughout our curriculum KS3-5 is the continuous theme of the changing relationship between the powerful and the powerless.

Factual and Conceptual knowledge:

At KS3 we intend students to gain a broad understanding of a narrative that charts the development of civic and democratic rights in Britain, c.1066 to the 20th century, and the changing relationship between the powerful and powerless, whilst locating this narrative in its international context.

At KS4 we intend students to build on this foundation to develop their understanding of the contesting ideologies of communism, democracy and fascism which have shaped modern European societies, as well as a breadth study of Medicine in Britain and Early Elizabethan England that runs parallel to and draws from the KS3 narrative, whilst exploring a scientific and social perspective on change and continuity across a similar period.

At KS5 we develop students' understanding of the watershed of the Civil Wars and French Revolutions and the beginning of the modern political world, by focussing on the birth, life and death of the concept of Absolute Monarchy.

Across all key stages we intend to use factual knowledge in the short-term memory to develop students' conceptual knowledge in long term memory. Most importantly we intend students to retain a conceptual understanding of the institutions and ideologies that continue to shape British society.

Disciplinary knowledge

Across all key stages we intend to gradually introduce and then strengthen students' understanding of the 4 essential skills/competencies of our discipline:

knowledge of the past (factual and conceptual),





- historical analysis (i.e. engagement with historical enquires and the 2nd order concepts this involves
- critical engagement with sources of evidence and the provisional, partial and relative nature of evidence in History
- critical engagement with historical interpretations (which we also intend to achieve by using genuine historical scholarship to frame our enquiry questions)

By developing this understanding, we intend for students to leave us with an improved understanding of History as a unique discipline, and the ways in which it differs from other attempts to engage with the past (heritage, stories, myth, national narrative). Ultimately this is intended to equip students to assess the past (and the arguments others use it for) in a mature and critical way.

Year	What will students learn?	Rationale	How will students be assessed?	What links are made to the real world, careers, and to developing the disciplinary knowledge of students to become better historians?
7	Enquiry 1 - How far did Anglo-Saxon	At KS3 we intend students to gain a	Key assessments at the end	We are developing students'
	England survive the Norman	broad understanding of the discipline	of every unit which focus on	understanding of the modern
	Conquest?	itself, and then investigate the	key concepts of the study of	world through looking at the
		development of civic and democratic	History – for example, use	origins of the structures within our
	Enquiry 2 - What was the biggest	rights in Britain, c.1066 to the 20th	of evidence, quality of	society that shape our everyday
	threat to the power of Medieval	century, and the changing relationship	explanation etc. Each unit	life – Church, Monarchy,
	monarchy?	between the powerful and powerless,	will have a bespoke	Parliament and State.
		whilst citing this in its international	assessment which assesses	
	Enquiry 3 - How far did the	context.	students' understanding of	We start the year by introducing
	Reformation affect the lives of		the relevant assessment	students to what the study of
	ordinary people?	In Year 7 this involves building students'	objective for that Enquiry	History is and build and
		understanding of the pre-modern state	question through reviewing	consolidate basic historical skills
	Enquiry 4 - Why was Charles I	and its institutions (Monarchy, Church,	student's communication of	such as chronology and key terms
	executed in 1649?	and Parliament) and its limitations, and	knowledge for a specific	like change, continuity and
		the impact these institutions had on	focus. Feedback and	significance. As the year goes on





	Enquiry 5 - What was life like under the British Empire?	ordinary people and the ways in which they were resisted.	opportunity to improve will be provided.	we introduce more complex disciplinary skills such as source analysis, interpretation and basic
		Later in Year 7 students are provided with the foundations of understanding of Britain's Imperial history and legacy. as well as the wider history of the Age of Revolutions, which is presented as a watershed between pre-modern and early modern history, and is designed to allow students to understand the development of British civic and democratic rights in international context.	 Year 7 Enquiry 1 – Change and Continuity Enquiry 2 – Consequence Enquiry 3 – Change and Continuity Enquiry 4 – Significance and Causation Enquiry 5 – Source Investigation 	historiography. Students learn to draw information from primary sources to answer enquiry questions and begin to think about the argument's historians present and what their influences are. We also prepare students to improve their written communication by practicing paragraph construction and embedding key terms and evidence to help improve the quality of their explanations.
8	How revolutionary was the Age of Revolutions? What can sources tell us about women's rights in the 1800-1918?	In year 8 students continue their study of the development of these civic and democratic rights, and the institutions and ideas that shape modern Britain, firstly by studying the impact of various	 Year 8 Enquiry 1 – Change and Continuity – Similarity and difference 	Students in this year group build on the foundations of the disciplinary knowledge set in Y7. Source investigation forms more
	Why was WW1 not 'the war to end all wars'?	revolutions - the Industrial Revolution, the Haitian Revolution and French Revolution - and then the emancipation of women.	 Enquiry 2 – Significance, source investigation Enquiry 3 – Change and Continuity, Causation Enquiry 4 – Significance 	of a primary role in assessment and the skills of students in analyzing these sources will increase. They will be able to
	Which was the biggest turning point of WW2?	This provides students with an understanding of modern Britain's	 Enquiry 5 – Causation and significance 	study provenance and test against accuracy and typicality, This is a very important skill to employ in





What were the consequences of	democratic institutions by the turn of	• Enquiry 6 – Change,	everyday life for dealing with
anti-Semitism in Europe during the	the 20 th century, which we use as a	continuity and	information in the media, from
20th century ?	foundation to study the challenges to	significance	peer groups etc.
	democratic states in the 20 th century		
How has migration shaped our	from differing ideologies. Our study of		Students will gain confidence in
nation? Local study with a Sheffield	the Holocaust allows student to see the		assessing historical debate and
focus.	impact of this struggle on people		formulating their own arguments.
	throughout Europe.		
	We then follow this with a look at the		
	legacy of conflict in the mid-20 th century		
	and how this led to migration and		
	impacted our own city.		
9 Medicine in Britain, c.1250 –	At KS4 students build on this foundation	Students are assessed to	These topics cover a wide breadth
present and Depth Study on	at KS3 to develop their understanding of	prepare them for GCSE	and depth of significant historical
11 Injuries, treatment in the trenches,	social history, political ideologues.,	examinations in the second	events and developments.
1914-1918	conflict and the state. Change and	year of their course, using a	
	continuity if a large focus across all	combination of regular	Topics such as the Cold War
Early Elizabethan England, 1558 –	exam papers and students are able to	factual and conceptual	introduce political ideology at
1588	use skills developed at KS3 to help them	knowledge tests, alongside	GCSE level, building on the study
	to investigate this.	a process of gradually	of this from KS3, which is essential
Superpower Relations and the Cold		introducing new types of	for students understanding world-
War, 1941 – 1991	This combination of units from the	exam assessment	developments and why things are
	EDEXCEL options provides a	throughout each unit.	happening at present. Our study
Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918 -	combination of breadth and depth of	Feedback and improvement	of Weimar and Nazi Germany
1939	British and European History that is	time is always provided.	similarly explores this and the
	most relevant to our studies at KS3 and		interpretation aspect of the exam
	best supports students to reach success	At formal internal	for this paper helps students to
	– there are ample opportunities here	assessment points mock	understand provenance and how





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		for students to recap and reinforce prior	exams will be sat by	important this is in formulating
		knowledge from KS3 and apply to their	students.	ideas about the past and the
		GCSE studies.		caution which must be exercised
				when conducting investigations.
		Medicine in Britain reinforces students'		
		understanding of the changing nature of		Students visit the Thackray
		government and its involvement in the		Medical Museum in Leeds to see
		lives of ordinary people, Early		the developments they learn
		Elizabethan England reinforces students		about across the course such as x-
		understanding of the fundamental		rays, spread of disease etc. They
		difference in religious tolerance that		also attend a session where they
		separates the modern from pre-modern		work with primary sources
		Britain, and Superpower relations and		through investigation and analysis
		Weimar and Nazi Germany reinforces		to discover significant historical
		the lesson that there are varied political		developments.
		ideologies which exist alongside each		· ·
		other.		Students also have the
				opportunity to go on a WW1
				Battlefields trip to France and
				Belgium which links to the areas of
				Paper 1 but also links to the work
				of Historical professionals such as
				the Commonwealth Graves
				Commission.
12	AQA History A Level	At KS5 we develop students'	Students are assessed to	Unit 1D further builds on students
13		understanding of the turning points of	prepare them for their A	understanding of society's core
	Unit 1D: Stuart Britain and the Crisis	the British Civil Wars and French	Level examination in many	structures – Church, Monarchy,
	of Monarchy, 1603 – 1702	Revolutions and how these events	ways including knowledge	Parliament and ideas of rule such
		redirected the role of monarchy and	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	as the extent of absolutism. An
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- Monarchs and Parliaments, 1603– 1629
- Revolution, 1629 1649
- From Republic to restored and limited monarchy, 1649 – 1678
- The establishment of Constitutional Monarch, 1678 -1702

Unit 2H: France in Revolution, 1774 – 1815

- The origins of the French Revolution, 1774 – 1789
- The Experiment in Constitutional Monarchy, 1789 – 1792
- The emergence and spread of the Terror, September 1792– 1795
- The Directory and Napoleon's rise to power, 1795–1799
- The impact of Napoleon's rule on France, 1799–1815
- The impact of Napoleon's rule on Europe, 1799–1815

NEA: The Civil Rights Movement in America from 1865 - 1968

 A study of a range of key issues across this period including the Parliament leading into the modern world.

We have picked this particular combination of units because we believe it provides the best opportunity for students to build on their KS4 study (whether or not they have previously studied at Notre Dame) by offering a chance to explore in greater depth fundamental issues of the balance between the rights and powers of government vs the governed, sovereignty and its origins, political legitimacy and the social contract.

Both Unit 1 and Unit 2 have been purposely selected as they compliment each other in terms of helping students to build an understanding which is fundamental to their development during the course – for example, both explore the idea of absolute monarchy and the reactions of the people towards it. They also both reference the wider world so also provide a comprehensive understanding of Europe and the wider world in the Early Modern Period.

tests and exam-based questions.

At formal internal assessment points mock exams will be sat by students across both sides of the course.

The NEA is a 4500-word research-based project answering a pre-set essay question and using primary sources and historians' interpretations as supporting evidence. Students are well prepared for this and a set timeline of planning, drafts and submission will be issued at the start of the unit with an internal and external final submission date made clear.

appreciation of the development of these core things helps students have a better understanding of the relationships between these things at present. The discussion between power and authority also helps students to distinguish lawful rule in the present.

As part of this course, students also go on a trip to the National Civil War Centre in Newark to see how History is presented to the public. They explore galleries, handle objects from the Civil War period and visit sites of historical importance around this area. This enrichment and communication of History to the public encourages a real engagement with Unit 1.

Unit 2H again builds on power and government and further explores the ideology surrounding the French Kings – students delve further into absolutism and will analyse how this affects the actions of the French monarchs, Parliament and people. The





nature and success of protest and the actions of ordinary people.	

Our NEA moves students to the Modern Era by exploring the persecution experienced by many in America, the reactions to it and successes from the Civil Rights Movement that have had a lasting impact.

increasing power of the people is also an interesting comparison to more modern, and immediately present, events and will help students build a better understanding of the power of society, social-contracts and the role of the wider public in historical developments.

The NEA is a modern period study and introduces students to a depth study on America. Here they can apply their knowledge of crowd action, the conflict between those in authority and the wider public to come to justified conclusions on the motivating factors for change.

This is a 4500 essay which requires students to work with primary sources and interpretations and use both of these to enhance their own arguments and drive their view forward as a Historian would. They are required to address provenance and limitations of both sources and interpretations





	which is helpful to gain confidence in applying these to real-world situations. Students also have to independently research this topic area and handle large volumes of information which requires selection and prioritising.
	Students also have the option to participate in the Historical Associations annual public speaking competition which provides an opportunity to engage with wider historical debate and allows them to practice presenting ideas in a clear, concise way to an audience.