

Curriculum Intent

This year of study aims to give students a firm understanding of the Medieval period and some sense of how it moves into the Early Modern period. Students will examine what makes a successful ruler. They will then move on to compare two dynasties politically, economically and socially, and will finish by examining a society in transition through the Black Death and the Industrial Revolution.



Year 7 | Medieval to Early Modern life.

Students will learn:-

Theme: Power Conflict and Co-Operation: Rulers

Who do we think we are?
 How did William gain control?
 Who was to blame for the murder of Thomas Beckett?
 Was King John really a bad king?
 How did Elizabeth I survive?
 What makes a successful monarch?

Theme: Civilisations and Empires: The Islamic Empire

How important was Muhammad in the founding of Islam?
 How and why did the Islamic Empire spread?
 Why did a division between the Sunni's and Shi'ites occur?
 The city of Baghdad
 Islamic learning and Arts.
 The Crusades
 The Ottomans

Theme: Changing lives and attitudes: Daily lives

What was the impact of the Black Death on the lives of ordinary people?
 How did the industrial revolution change the lives of ordinary people?
 What were the causes of the industrial revolution?
 Why were working conditions for children so bad?
 Why were diseases such a big problem in 19th century cities?
 What were the major inventions of the 20th Century?
 (a possibility)

Knowledge, understanding & Skills

- Students will be able to show key knowledge related to the following core questions, and will be able to build structured responses to them. Students need to demonstrate an awareness of cause, effect, continuity, change and significance in all areas of study.
- How did William become King of England and how did he change society?
- What was the role of the church in medieval life?
- How should we view King John and how have interpretations of him changed over time?
- Why was Elizabeth such a successful monarch?
- In-depth knowledge of the Tang and Rome dynasties and the similarities and differences between them.
- How did the Black Death affect economy and society in England?
- What were the negative and positive effects of industrialisation?



How is homework used to enhance learning?

‘Meanwhile elsewhere’ sheets (requires a student to study an example of a historical event or person from another part of the world at the same time.)

ToK-style questions embedded in all lessons (challenging, open-ended, more philosophical-style questions related to the topic designed to stretch thinking.)

Read a history book related to your period of history – either fact or fiction. (See history department reading lists)

Practise spellings; keep a glossary or new words; use a physical dictionary; keep a vocabulary book for new or challenging words gained from class or wider reading.



How will we assess impact? (3D)

Regular Q & A to ascertain understanding and comprehension.

End of unit tests every half term.

Dedicated reflection and improvement time after assessments.

Peer and self-assessment.

The use of model answers and mark schemes.

Quizzes and spot tests.

What does excellence look like?

- Show accurate and detailed factual knowledge.
- Develop the skill of knowledge retention and effective deployment within answers.
- Build clear explanations.
- Begin to see the importance of structure and organisation in extended responses.
- Show an awareness of historical context.
- Begin the development of basic argument.
- Evaluate sources in a basic way taking account of origin, purpose and usefulness.
- Show an understanding that the past can be interpreted in different ways.

International Opportunities

Visits Programmes

WW1 region visits
Memorial Museum Passchendaele
Tyne Cot, Langemark German Cemetery
Ypres - Last Post Ceremony at Menin Gate.

Within the curriculum

East Meets West Topic – an in-depth examination of two unfamiliar societies: Tang China and the Roman Empire.
Examination of this involves a detailed appreciation of different cultural contexts.

