

Curriculum Intent

This year of study is primarily focused on giving students a grasp of cause and consequence through the filter of revolts, rebellions and protest.

It should also give the students a broader sense of chronology and introduce them to crucial political themes to prepare them for their studies in Year 9. Finally, it provides students with important cultural capital. They study some of the most pivotal moments of world history.



Year 8 | Revolts, rebellions and protest.

Students will learn:-

Unit 1: The Magna Carta

Unit 2: The Peasants' Revolt

Unit 3: The Break with Rome.

Unit 4: The American Revolution.

Unit 5: Suffrage: female emancipation and workers' rights.



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.
- Why was the Magna Carta so significant?
- What were the causes and consequences of the Peasants' Revolt?
- Why, and with what results, did Henry break with Rome?
- Why did the American states revolt against British rule and what were the consequences?
- Why did working people want the vote?
- How did women finally win the vote?

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 with supporting factual knowledge.
- Produce extended answers that show an understanding of structure and organisation.
- Show an awareness of historical context and begin to use this as part of explanations.
- Begin the development of argument and be able to see counter-argument.
- Evaluate sources in a way that takes into account origin, purpose and usefulness.
- Show the understanding that the past can be interpreted in different ways, and begin to explain these different viewpoints.

How is homework used to enhance learning?

“Meanwhile elsewhere’ sheets (requires you 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

International Opportunities

Visits Programmes

- "Le Mont Saint Michel
- D Day Museum – Arromanches
- Bayeux War Cemetery
- Bayeux tapestry
- Fort La Latte
- St.Malo"
- "Glanum Roman site – guided visit. Costume workshop on Roman site – clothes material used by Romans.
- Pont Benozet
- Le Pont du Gard –Roman aquaduc.
- Nimes
- Schloss Freudenberg
- Palacio Real
- El Palacio Real de La Granja.
- Segovia castle.
- Madrid - town tour incl. Puerto del Sol
- Wax museum - incl. historical Spanish figures
- Toledo"
- "Duomo di Milano (cathedral)
- Sforzesco castle

Within the curriculum

We study the significance of the Magna Carta and how it has impacted the world as the foundation stone of democracy and civil liberties, ranging from the American constitution to the struggle for black civil rights under Mandela.

As part of their examination of Henry VIII’s break with Rome students will first have to gain an understanding and appreciation of the predominantly Catholic nature of Europe at the time, largely orchestrated by the Pope in Rome.

Students also have the opportunity to study the foundation of the United States of America focusing on how and why independence was gained, and what the consequences of this were