



HISTORY

Why is the study of History important?

History means, in its simplest form: the past. However, it is also about what historians have actually written about the past. It provides us with a way to make sense of current affairs. The study of History is critically important, as everything which is happening around us has been influenced by, and is a direct result of, that which preceded it. In this way, the study of History is explicitly relevant to all of us.

Its study will make you question the world around us and encourage you to develop a deeper understanding of why certain people act as they do. When studying the history of Britain, we can see the effects of migration on our cultural identity; and how this is an issue which leads to considerable debate in our society. When studying History, it is evident that there are patterns in human behaviour which tend to repeat themselves. Whether it is the role of a charismatic leader such as Churchill, or even charismatic dictators like Hitler, or the significance of religion in human conflict, humans have a habit of ignoring contributing factors which can lead to wars and oppression. It is the role of History and the historian, to comment on such events and attempt to avoid it in the future.

From Year 7 you will have the exciting opportunity to study the history of our nation and how people's lives have shaped it. You will get the opportunity to learn about the influence that Britain has had on the world. As well as examining Britain's influence on a global scale, you will have the opportunity to examine the influence that global events have had on the shaping of our nation. Across your study, you will be introduced to key historical concepts such as change and continuity, cause and consequence, and significance and you will use these in lessons to draw conclusions, analyse trends and patterns in history and frame historically-valid questions. Your study of History will encourage you to think deeply and help you more effectively analyse; and then prioritise information, which will allow you to make informed decisions – a great life skill that all universities and employers will appreciate.

Across your study you will explore key themes such as the struggle between the church and crown, and the impact that this had on the ruling classes but also on the lives of the ordinary people. You will examine how this struggle led to defining moments in our history like Henry VIII's break with the Roman Catholic Church, and how his religious conflicts caused later problems for monarchs such as Elizabeth I as she faced the consequences of religious tensions and conflict during her reign. Lessons will provide a wide range of opportunities for you to frame your own historical questions, and through the use of the methods of historical enquiry, will enable you to make supported judgements to answer them.

History is a subject which contains the best debates and the best arguments; you will examine key historical debates such as: Were the British Army right to execute British soldiers during World War One? Was Churchill a hero? Who was to blame for the holocaust? Seems challenging - you are going to love it! History will broaden your mind! I bet you can't wait to get started...you are going to love it! History will broaden your mind!

What skills will the study of History teach you?

You are a citizen in this world and you need to know about the various consequences of the decisions taken by the people of the past, to provide you with a broad cultural awareness. It will teach you to...

- Analyse issues and events
- Express your ideas both orally and in written form
- Put forward ideas and arguments in a concise manner
- Gather, investigate and assess materials
- Base conclusions on research and generate further ideas
- Organise material in a logical and coherent way
- Be independent
- Pose questions and seek answers – A love of enquiry!

What will you know and understand from your study of History?

- You will understand people and societies. The study of History allows us to investigate how people and societies behave. Information from the past must serve to explain why we, as people, behave as we do in society. Students need to develop some sense of how societies function, simply to run their own lives.
- You will understand modern events and current issues. The past causes the present and so the future. Anytime we try to find out why something happened we have to look for factors that took shape earlier.
- Studying History will test your own moral sense. People throughout history have been in situations and difficult circumstances whereby they have had to make hard choices.

How does your study of History support your study in other subjects?

Study of any subject in our curriculum takes full advantage of links with other subject areas - we term these as interdisciplinary links and we make the most of them because we know that deep learning requires the transference of knowledge and skills from one topic of learning to another. Once you can transfer your learning across topics and subject areas then you are really mastering what you know and how to apply your understanding and skills.

History touches on so many other subjects such as Geography and English Literature, any subject that analyses information, asks you to look at patterns and trends, requires you to construct a coherent and well-structured argument. You will learn methods of thinking and research that are widely applicable to other subject areas helping your thinking in all subjects.

Aims of the National Curriculum

1. Know and understand the history of these islands as a coherent, chronological narrative, from the earliest times to the present day: how people's lives have shaped this nation and how Britain has influenced and been influenced by the wider world
2. Know and understand significant aspects of the history of the wider world: the nature of ancient civilisations; the expansion and dissolution of empires; characteristic features of past non-European societies; achievements and follies of mankind
3. Gain and deploy a historically grounded understanding of abstract terms such as 'empire', 'civilisation', 'parliament' and 'peasantry'
4. Understand historical concepts such as continuity and change, cause and consequence, similarity, difference and significance, and use them to make connections, draw contrasts, analyse trends, frame historically-valid questions and create their own structured accounts, including written narratives and analyses
5. Understand the methods of historical enquiry, including how evidence is used rigorously to make historical claims, and discern how and why contrasting arguments and interpretations of the past have been constructed
6. Gain historical perspective by placing their growing knowledge into different contexts, understanding the connections between local, regional, national and international history; between cultural, economic, military, political, religious and social history; and between short-and long-term timescales

Our Outwood Programme of Study for KS3 aligns to the National Curriculum Programme of Study for History.

KS3 needs to therefore be seen as an opportunity to build the core knowledge and understanding of the procedural concepts required, in order for our students to excel in history. These years are used not to repeat content being delivered at GCSE; but to allow us to build horizontal links to the GCSE topics. Embedding within our students the core knowledge required to succeed in the discipline of history.

The importance of delivering a diverse curriculum

Given the tumultuous events of 2020 and the Black Lives Matter movement, we have a moral duty to reflect upon our curriculum provision, and to try and deliver a more inclusive national history.

In *The Imperial Hangover*, Dr Samir Puri examined the mixed legacies of empires for later generations, and argues that Britain is trapped between two irreconcilable sentiments: 'Britain's Grandeur and Guilt of Empire'. He states that 'accommodating diverse and often contradictory perspectives is core to the challenge we face as educators. 'Britain ought to derive pride from its past accomplishments, while simultaneously building an awareness and a humility around its involvement in controversial historical episodes. Achieving both will be tough'.

In our curriculum we need to ensure that we educate our students about our country and how it came to its current state. To deliver this successfully, our students need an awareness of how Britain came to be a culturally diverse, multi-ethnic nation. Dr Puri argues that it is our responsibility to ensure that our students leave school with an understanding of Britain's historic successes, and how the British Empire contributed to the outcomes of the world wars and to also know why Britain's populace is now multi-

ethnic. We have a duty to allow our students to study the arrival stories of big BAME communities as related to decolonisation. It is therefore important that any planning of our KS3 provision has the origin story of BAME communities as a priority theme.

As part of a diverse curriculum our Key Stage 3 curriculum should also represent the history of other groups in society to represent the diverse nature of the classroom each teacher encounters. This will include subject content that examines as either a depth study or across the curriculum in breadth the history of all genders, religions, sexualities and disabled people. Whether or not the local area reflects the national picture, it is the duty of all academies to ensure that every pupil in every school, regardless of location and experience, gains a broad understanding of British society as a whole. They need to learn to see society from a variety of viewpoints and have an understanding of how society became the way it is.

How are you assessed in History?

Throughout the 5 years History course you are assessed using the following assessment objectives which ensure that you can cumulatively build your subject understanding in preparation for future GCSE and A Level study. There are 6 assessment points each year that we term Praising Stars©. We assess how students at their current stage of study are on track to reach their end of stage targets which are formulated on aspirational expectation from their KS2 starting points. We make an informed prediction from our holistic assessments based on our subject mapping of expectation across the History curriculum.

Key Assessment Objectives

- AO1: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the key features and characteristics of the periods studied.
- AO2: Explain and analyse historical events and periods studied using second order historical concepts.
- AO3: Analyse, evaluate and use sources (contemporary to the period) to make substantiated judgements, in the context of historical events studied.
- AO4: Analyse, evaluate and make substantiated judgements about interpretations (including how and why interpretations may differ) in the context of historical events studied.

How can History support your future?

We offer the study of GCSE and A Level History and we encourage your continued study in this fantastic subject. Yet we know that choice and personal interest are important aspects of worthy study. Whether you have continued your study of History into GCSE or A level or not you will have gained access to this enriching subject and its study will have taught you to think differently and deeply.

History is offered at most prestigious universities either as a single honours or a joint honours subject studied alongside other disciplines e.g. History of Art, History and French, Archaeology, History and Philosophy, History and Politics, History and English. The very fact that you have been able to study History e.g. historical thinking will help your future application be they for colleges, universities, apprenticeships or employment.

Careers that the study of History supports include:

- Legal profession
- Journalism
- Archivist
- Writer
- Media
- Public sector administration
- Politics
- Business and commerce
- Museum curator
- Teaching

