

History Curriculum Year 8

In Year 8 students will study Early Modern British history with an initial comparison to society in the Medieval and modern society, and an introduction to the Stuart monarchy. Studying this area students will develop an understanding of how religious issues dominated the period, forming the backdrop to the social and political changes which resulted in the next steps towards the rule of law and gradually evolving democracy. The second major topic is the Industrial Revolution which serves as a 'vehicle' for reinforcing students' grasp of British values and how they have been hard won over long periods. They will reinforce the learning skills introduced in Yr7. The unit on women's' rights encourages students to confront common gender biases and further reinforces awareness of the tradition of progress through protest. Year 8 is completed by a study of the nature of trench warfare in the First World War. The thinking behind this is that those students who elect to drop History for GCSE will have some insight into this iconic aspect of British and World history.

**Due to ongoing changes to the History curriculum at Key Stage Three, the current design of the Year 8 scheme of work will change in September 2021. The apparent 'overlap' in Year 7 and 8 content, particularly regarding the history of women's rights, does not mean they will study any content twice.*

How did the Tudors change England? Autumn yr8 (7 lessons)

Curriculum goal – Students will understand why the Tudor century is a controversial period in history.

Students will:

- Identify similarities and differences between medieval life, the early modern period and C21 society.
- Know that religious controversy led to social tension and international conflict
- Interpret how portraits were used as propaganda
- Apply their knowledge to write creative prose about 'Bloody' Mary

Key vocabulary and concepts: Protestant, Catholic, reformation, propaganda;

Assessment: GCSE exam-style essay question on the defeat of the Spanish Armada

What were the causes and consequences of the English Civil War? Autumn yr8 (7 lessons)

Curriculum goal – Students will understand how religious and political beliefs caused conflict and changed England.

Students will:

- Describe how religious controversy led to civil war and political and social change and controversy
- Investigate how England moved away from absolute monarchy and towards democracy
- Apply their knowledge to creative prose about England before the civil war

Key vocabulary and concepts: Protestant, Catholic, reformation, puritan, civil war, democracy, government, short-term and long-term, political, economic, religious

Assessment: GCSE exam-style essay question on causes of the English Civil War

How did the Industrial Revolution change Britain between 1750 and 1900? Spring yr8 (9-11 lessons)

Curriculum goal – Students will understand how rapid changes in technology, science and political thinking revolutionised life in Britain by 1900.

Students will:

- Know how Enlightenment thinking encouraged the development of scientific thinking and technology
- Make inferences about the role of inventors and entrepreneurs in modernising Britain
- Investigate how life changed as Britain rapidly became an urbanised society
- Apply their knowledge to write creative prose about the experiences of Victorian child workers

Key vocabulary and concepts: social, agrarian, urban, industrial, entrepreneur, progress, regress, continuity, poverty

Assessment: Analyse historians' interpretations about progress and regress in this period

How did women gain the vote? Summer Yr7 (6 lessons)

Curriculum goal – Students will understand how the social and political status of women changed from the Victorian period to the First World War

Students will:

- Know how Victorian women suffered inequality and discrimination
- Describe the variety of campaigns and tactics employed to gain women's' rights
- Make interpretations about the impact of various events and tactics

- Apply their knowledge to create propaganda in favour of women's suffrage

Key vocabulary and concepts: sexism; discrimination; authorities; suffragist; suffragette; equality; vote; election;

Assessment: Analysis of primary sources on campaigners for comprehension and utility.

What was life like on the Western Front? (6 lessons)

Curriculum goal – Students will understand the problems faced by soldiers on the Western Front, the 'Lions led by Donkeys' controversy and how the Great War is remembered.

Students will:

- Know how trench warfare came about
- Describe the dangers to soldiers from weapons technology and military tactics
- Make judgements about various attitudes towards the war and remembrance
- Apply their knowledge to write creative prose about the Western Front

Key vocabulary and concepts: trenches, stalemate, no-man's land, dugout, infantry, artillery, conscientious objector, remembrance

Assessment: Exam-style essay on Haig and the Battle of the Somme

*End of year exam – GCSE-style questions on the Industrial Revolution including a combination of source and knowledge/essay questions