

# GCSE History

## What's the point about learning and studying the past?

*Studying history prepares you for the future. This course particularly encourages learners to become curious, to develop their own opinions based on a respect for evidence, and to build a deeper understanding of the present by engaging with and questioning the past. It helps you to understand and examine how the past has shaped international, national and local societies and people. It enables us to develop a better understanding of the world that we live in and by understanding historical events and changes enables us to appreciate events of today. History provides us with an identity.*

## Is there a lot of reading and writing involved?

*In short - yes. However, we teach you and provide you with lots of writing frames to help you and you quickly learn the technique to be able to answer exam questions effectively. You will have to write notes in your exercise books but we also give you lots of fact sheets so you won't be writing all of the time. Part of learning about history does involve reading but we do use alternative ways to gain knowledge by watching video clips and listening to podcasts.*

## Is History a hard subject to study?

*History is an academic subject. This means that there will be topics or concepts which you may find challenging to grasp initially and you must have the resilience to tackle these and not give up. However, it is all about studying stories; It is **History**. You must also have to have a love of the past and an inquisitive, enquiring mind to enjoy the time-consuming nature of the subject.*

## What jobs can I do with a qualification in History?

*Traditionally, having a qualification in History you would think leads to a job such as a teacher or a librarian. However the skills you learn by studying history, of using evidence to support an argument, are transferrable into many professions such as lawyers, solicitors, the police force, sales & marketing and researchers.*

## How will GCSE History be assessed?

*There are three papers. They are all sat at the end of Year 11.*

- 1. The People's Health, c.1250 to present and The Norman Conquest, 1065–1087 – 1 hour 45mins (40%)*
- 2. History Around Us (Kenilworth Castle) – 1 hour (20%)*
- 3. The Making of America, 1789–1900 and Living under Nazi Rule, 1933–1945 - 1 hour and 45mins (40%)*

## Are students set by ability?

*No, all groups are mixed- ability.*