



# King's College

## *The British School of Murcia*

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### **History Curriculum Overview**

## History – Year 7

### **Aims**

History aims to enhance students' literacy and communication skills through activities that encourage a range of outcomes – speaking, role play, extended writing, presentations and debate. Students will increase their ability to reason objectively through the development of the following analytical skills; Causal reasoning, evaluating change and continuity and assessing significance of people and events. These skills will be embedded throughout the course.

### **What will students study?**

#### **Term 1**

- England in 1066; push and pull reasons for coming to England.
- The Norman conquest; Contenders to the throne, the battle of Hastings, the Bayeux tapestry
- Methods of Norman control; The Feudal system, the Domesday book, the rebellion in the North, Motte and Bailey castles
- The development of castles; how to attack a castle
- The murder of Thomas Becket; why did he die? Long and Short term causes, who was to blame

#### **Term 2**

- God's warriors; Why risk death to defend the church? (The Crusades)
- The Magna Carta; Was King John a bad King?
- The Great charter; the evolution of democracy
- The Black Death; symptoms and possible causes of the Great Plague, consequences of the Great Plague

### **Term 3**

- The Peasants' revolt; How and why did the Peasants get out of control?
- Henry VIII; Why did Henry VIII leave the Catholic church?
- What was the Reformation?
- End of year assessment

### **Assessment**

Each term will have one preparatory assessment and one main assessment based on the over-arching theme of that term. Students will be given formative feedback in the preparatory assessment which should be used to inform their main assessments.

## **History – Year 8**

### **Aims**

History aims to enhance students' literacy and communication skills through activities that encourage a range of outcomes – speaking, role play, extended writing, presentations and debate. Students will increase their ability to reason objectively through the development of the following analytical skills; Causal reasoning, evaluating change and continuity and assessing significance of people and events. These skills will be embedded throughout the course.

### **What will students study?**

#### **Term 1**

- Mary Queen of Scots; Why was Elizabeth so scared of Mary?
- Elizabeth I; Who was Elizabeth I? The Spanish Armada, Elizabeth's problems
- Elizabeth I and Henry VIII; who was the more significant monarch?
- The Gunpowder Plot; What was the Gunpowder Plot? Was Guy Fawkes framed?

## **Term 2**

- The English Civil War; The two sides, time-line of events, Causes of the English Civil War, life during the war (was it so bad?), Propaganda during the war and the trial of Charles I.
- Oliver Cromwell; Who was he and what did he do when he was in charge of Britain?
- Monarchs from 1660-1760; who, what and when?

## **Term 3**

- The Industrial Revolution; Changes from 1700-1850, the factories, the agrarian revolution, the workhouse.
- Life in 1900; What was life like approx 100 years ago today?
- End of year assessment

## **Assessment**

Each term will have one preparatory assessment and one main assessment based on the over-arching theme of that term. Students will be given formative feedback in the preparatory assessment which should be used to inform their main assessments.

## **History – Year 9**

### **Aims**

History aims to enhance students' literacy and communication skills through activities that encourage a range of outcomes – speaking, role play, extended writing, presentations and debate. Students will increase their ability to reason objectively through the development of the following analytical skills; Causal reasoning, evaluating change and continuity and assessing significance of people and events. These skills will be embedded throughout the course.

## What will students study?

### Term 1

The First World War;

- Causes of World War One; Where did it all go wrong?
- Recruitment and conscientious objectors
- Who fought for Britain in the war?
- The Trenches; what is a trench, poetry and the media analysis of the trenches
- The Treaty of Versailles; Was it a fair peace?

### Term 2

The Second World War;

- Hitler's rise to power; 1920's Germany, Rise to chancellor (1933), Rise to Dictator (1934)
- The causes of the Second World War; Appeasement and Nazi aggression
- Nazism; propaganda and terror, women and children, the Home Front
- Key events of World War Two; Dunkirk, Pearl Harbour, Stalingrad, the dropping of the atomic bomb

### Term 3

- Key events of the Second World War; The Holocaust; Dilemmas, individual journeys, anti-Jewish laws, rescuers, resistance and how we should remember the Holocaust
- The role of women in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century
- End of year assessment

### Assessment

Each term will have one preparatory assessment and one main assessment based on the over-arching theme of that term. Students will be given formative feedback in the preparatory assessment which should be used to inform their main assessments.

## IGCSE HISTORY

IGCSE History comprises of four main topics, each making up 25% of the overall grade. You will sit two exams, the first of which focuses on topics 1 and 2, the second focusing on 3 and 4.

The topics are as follows;

**Germany 1918-1945**

**The Cold War, 1945-1962**

**Changes in medicine, 1845-1945**

**The French Revolution, 1780-94**

Topics 1 and 2 require good analytical skills and essay writing ability, whereas topics 3 and 4, particularly 4, are focused on the analysis of source material. If you choose to study History IGCSE, you will be provided with a number of aids to help you progress and reach your potential. These include a **past papers booklet** (see link below) which shows you all of the questions that have been asked in the past, with explanations about how to answer them correctly. You will also receive an **exam analysis booklet** (see link below) which shows you what the exam will look like and what you will be expected to do for each question. These materials are available at any time and if you wish to have a look at them, please come to the History classroom and ask or use the links at the bottom of the page.

Generally, students will complete three of the topics in the first year of study. In the second year, students should finish the final topic by Christmas, which gives students a **great deal of time to be able to revise and hone their skills** in preparation for the exam.

## FUTURE PROGRESSION- A LEVEL, CAREERS AND UNIVERSITIES

Students successful in the course have gone on to **combine History with a wide range of subjects at Advanced Level** and later found History **extremely useful in university courses**, ranging from International Relations through to Aeronautical Engineering.

History has most obvious links to **careers in politics, law, journalism and education, but the knowledge, skills of analysis and empathy, and understanding are highly valued in the business world.** It is no coincidence therefore that, in the UK at least, History is one of the most competitive degree courses available.

## **RESOURCES**

Past papers booklet link - <http://www.tes.co.uk/teaching-resource/Past-Papers-and-Mark-schemes-for-History-IGCSE-6426283/requestAction/add/>

Exam analysis booklet link - <http://www.tes.co.uk/teaching-resource/History-IGCSE-exam-guidance-booklet-6426282/requestAction/add/>