History

All students study History in Years 7, 8 and 9. At the end of Year 9 the students have the option to continue to study History GCSE. History at the School continues to be developed every year, with new approaches to the delivery of the subject being introduced all the time.

There are opportunities for the students across all year groups to take part in trips including a trenches trip in these centenary years of the First World War. Through Years 7-9 students study 18 Units of History covering a wide variety of topics and themes. The structure is broadly chronological, starting with the Saxons in Year 7 and finishing with World War Two in Year 9.

History at Key Stage 3

Year 7

- **What is History?**
  Introduces students to the study of History.

- **Conquest and Control**
  Explores why the Battle of Hastings was fought and why William won.

- **Living in the Past**
  Looks at what life was like in Medieval times and whether Medieval life was all muck and misery.

- **Power and Protest**
  Looks at how the power of Medieval kings changes and exploring how different groups of people emerged to challenge the power of Medieval kings.

- **Beliefs and Attitudes**
  A depth study of the Black Death and how it changed the country.

- **Changing Relationships**
  Looking at how Henry VIII became one of the most famous kings of England and how he changed relationships between himself and the Church. This includes a trip to the dissolved priory at Castle Acre.

Year 8

- **Power and Protest**
  Looks at the power struggle that took place between Charles I and Parliament which resulted in a Civil War that divided a nation. This includes a debate into whether students would have signed the death warrant.
**Changing Relationships**
Considers the career of Oliver Cromwell, his impact on the United Kingdom and how views on him have changed.

**Living in the Past**
Explores life in Britain during the Industrial Revolution with an enquiry into Victorian crime and punishment.

**Conquest and Control**
Looks at the British Empire and whether or not we should be proud of it.

**Beliefs and Attitudes**
Explores the beliefs and attitudes towards slavery and the slave trade.

**What is History?**
Students reflect critically upon the History they have studied while developing their historical skills.

**Year 9**

- **Power and Protest**
  Looking at the idea of revolution through a depth study of the French Revolution. This coincides with the Year 9 trip to Paris.

- **Beliefs and Attitudes**
  Looking at the changing beliefs and attitudes towards the role of women and men exploring the Suffragette movement.

- **Conflict and Control**
  A detailed study of the experience of soldiers in the First World War, studied at the same time as their English work on First World War poets. Students also have the opportunity to investigate local soldiers.

- **Living in the Past**
  Democracy and Dictatorship between the Wars leading into a study of the events of the Second World War. This includes a firm grounding in political concepts of fascism and communism.

- **Changing Relationships**
  Looking at the causes of and impact of the Holocaust. This currently includes a visit from a Holocaust survivor.
History at Key Stage 4

From September 2016 onwards the new GCSE History specification is being taught with students studying four in-depth studies across Years 10 and 11. There will be no coursework and grades will come as a number from 1-9.

Students will study 5 different units across the 2 years.

- **Unit 1: British Thematic Study – Migrants to Britain, c.1250 to present**
  The thematic study provides an opportunity to make history meaningful to learners by focusing on a theme that connects with their lives, and is the subject of contemporary debate in Britain. This will include the reasons why people migrated to Britain, the experience of migrants in Britain and the impact of migrants on Britain. This study begins with the expulsion of the Jewish communities in the 13th Century, continues with the mass migrations of empire and industry in the 19th Century and finishes with the 20th Century and the challenges faced by an increasingly globalized world. An exciting new topic at GCSE.
  *Percentage of marks: 20%*
  *Structure of Assessment: Written examination (1hr 45 minutes) taken at the end of Year 11. This Unit will be examined in the same paper as Unit 2.*

- **Unit 2: British Depth Study – The Norman Conquest, 1065–1087**
  This depth study should enable learners to understand the complexity of the Norman Conquest and the wider significance of this social and political earthquake in English history. They should develop an understanding of the diverse lives of Saxons and Normans during this tumultuous turning point in English history. This will include looking at the three battles of 1066, the rebellion and Viking incursions and the nature of Norman rule.
  *Percentage of marks: 20%*
  *Structure of Assessment: Written examination (1hr 45 minutes) taken at the end of Year 11. This Unit will be examined in the same paper as Unit 1.*

- **Unit 3: History Around Us – Norwich Castle Through the Ages**
  The students will investigate how and why Norwich Castle has changed over the years, following on neatly from Unit 2. This will include a visit to the site and a detailed enquiry into this local historical site that has changed so much in use and status over the years. This includes from its origins as a symbol of conquering power, its use in medieval times, its role as a Victorian prison to the present day function as Museum, educational resource and site of heritage importance.
  *Percentage of marks: 20%*
  *Structure of Assessment: Written examination (1hr) taken at the end of Year 11.*

- **Unit 4: World Period Study – The Making of America, 1789-1900**
  This period study offers learners the opportunity to study a wider world society during a particularly interesting period in its history. This unfolding narrative will follow the making of America from the inauguration of the first President in 1789 to the end of the Nineteenth Century when the USA was set to become the world’s
dominant power. This will include the Civil War and the relationships between the cultures of indigenous Americans, African Americans and white Americans.

*Percentage of marks: 20%*

*Structure of Assessment:* Written examination (1hr) taken at the end of Year 11. This Unit will be examined in the same paper as Unit 5

- **Unit 5: World Depth Study – Living under Nazi Rule, 1933–1945**

  This world depth study should enable learners to understand the impact of the Nazi dictatorship on people’s lives both within Germany and across occupied Europe. This will include how this most invasive of regimes crushed opposition, used propaganda, indoctrinated the young and used all its resources to seek to conquer and exploit the European continent.

  *Percentage of marks: 20%*

  *Structure of Assessment:* Written examination (1hr) taken at the end of Year 11. This Unit will be examined in the same paper as Unit 4.