

Intent

The purpose of the History Curriculum is to endow students with a love of history and enable their engagement with history, both in and out of school. They will develop skills that are essential to understand the twenty-first century world; that the power structures of the world are not static but shifting; learning not to accept everything they see and hear but instead seek to analyse the purpose and source of information.

Assessments

The purpose of assessment in History is to allow teachers to effectively monitor the development of skills, knowledge and to diagnose gaps in learning. Progress checks show teachers where knowledge and information has been retained and skills have been developed on the topic we are currently learning. Summative assessments thoroughly examine students on technique, timing and knowledge on content learned previously.

Strands

First Order Concepts Students progress in History by understanding and retaining knowledge about unique concepts. These are people, events, periods of time which form the basis of History; for example, D Day, Henry VIII and the Renaissance are unique concepts. These concepts progress chronologically across years 7-9. Students also develop their understanding of concepts, such as monarchy, democracy, power, slavery and class.

Second Order Concepts Students begin by ensuring they can confidently arrange events into chronological order, then develop their ability to explain how and why one event can cause another, before progressing to think about long term, short term and trigger causes, and the relative impact of various causes and consequences. Students also develop their understanding of Historical Significance.

Historiography Our department defines an historical source as a record created within 5 years of the event being studied. Students develop their understanding of the different sources available to historians. Interpretations are opinions about history, created by those who were not present at the time.

Careers

5 Work skills that History gives our students are: time management, critical thinking, communication, research and arguing persuasively.

These skills will be useful in a wide range of future careers. Those directly related to History include: archivist, archaeologist, heritage manager, history teacher, museum curator and university history lecturer. Other jobs not directly related to history, but where History provides useful skills include: barrister, journalist, librarian, political researcher, TV / theatre, tourism guide.

Local History

There are many things to see and do in and around Barnsley, that will help students bring their History studies to life. Experience Barnsley at the Town Hall is a fantastic place for all aspects of the town's history. Cannon Hall shows how the aristocracy lived in the 18th Century. Worsbrough Mill and Elsecar Heritage Centre reveal life and innovations of the Industrial Revolution. The impact of the Norman Conquest can be seen at Monk Bretton Priory or Conisbrough Castle.

'In The Library'

The Horizon Library holds a wide range of fiction and non-fiction books that link to History. Students can ask any Mrs Wakefield or Miss Dickinson to help them find any of these books.

For all students:

- Black and British by David Olusoga; the history of the black community in this island from Roman times.
- Regeneration by Pat Barker, historical fiction about the experiences of a soldier in the First World War.
- Children of Willesden Lane by Lee Cohen and Mona Golabek, story of children evacuated from Nazi-controlled Austria to England.
- Shakespeare 'Quick Reads,' including Richard III and Henry V, some of Shakespeare's best History plays in language younger students can follow themselves.

• The Five by Hallie Rubenhold, the lives of Jack the Ripper's victims, and what they reveal about the treatment of women in Victorian Britain.

For older students:

- All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr, story of a French family caught in the Nazi occupation of Paris.
- Hitler's Canary by Sandi Toksvig, dramatic tale of bravery in Denmark during the Second World War.
- Queen of Our Times by Robert Hardman, highly rated biography of the extraordinary reign of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

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What are some of our students currently working on?

From Image 1 and 2 you can see examples of Year 11 work, where students are preparing for their final exams by revising key information, names, dates, etc. For their topic on the History of America, The Economic Boom and The Great Depression.

From Image 3 you can see an example of a Year 7 working on the chronology of England in the Anglo-Saxon and Plantagenet periods, cause and consequence and what we can learn about the Monarchy.

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