

## History Programmes of Study - Key Stage 3

The History Department seeks to equip pupils with the skills necessary to promote good historical thinking and writing. In Key Stage 3, pupils have 2 lessons per week and carry out 6 yearly assessments which focus on causation, change and continuity, significance and the interpretation of evidence.

### Year 7

#### 1. Skills Unit

This is a skills based unit which focuses on how to analyse evidence and the importance of second order concepts in history such as causation, change and continuity and significance.



#### 2. Medieval Realms

This unit examines the political, social, religious and economic history of mainly England from 1066 to 1485. Pupils study how the Norman Conquest changed England following William the Conqueror's victory at the Battle of Hastings. Pupils also examine key events such as the murder of Thomas Becket, the causes and consequences of the Black Death and the Crusades. A detailed enquiry of medieval women is carried out looking at the life of both peasant women and royalty such as Eleanor of Aquitaine.



### 3. The Tudors

This unit examines the political, religious, social and economic change which took place in England under the Tudors. Pupils carry out an enquiry into the English Reformation and analyse how Elizabeth I overcame problems such as the plots of Mary Queen of Scots and the Spanish Armada. All Year 7 pupils go on a visit to Hampton Court to find out how the court of Henry VIII lived.



## Year 8

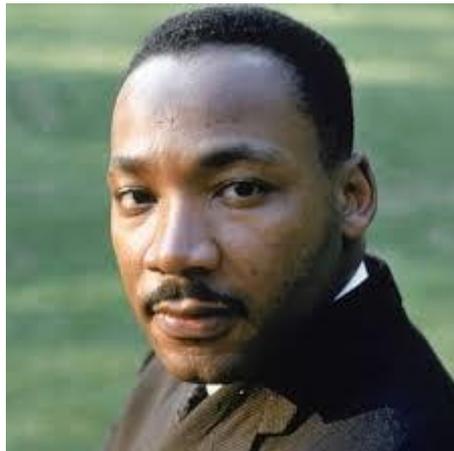
### 1. The Stuarts

This unit examines how James VI of Scotland became James I of England and how his persecution of Catholics led to the Gunpowder Plot. Pupils also study the causes and consequences of the English Civil War and Cromwell's Commonwealth. Students learn about the Restoration and later the victory of William of Orange at the Battle of Boyne with its political significance in Northern Ireland today.



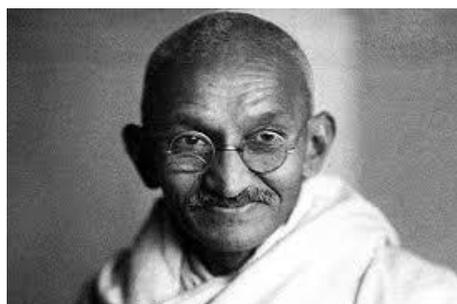
## 2. Black Peoples of America

This unit examines how black people were transported to America as slaves and forced to work on plantations growing largely cotton in the Southern states. Pupils learn about the causes and consequences of the American Civil War. Students analyse the segregation of black Americans in the South and the activities of groups such as the Ku Klux Klan. An enquiry into the murder of Emmett Till then demonstrates how a civil rights movement grew in America led by Martin Luther King and the success of peaceful protest. Finally students study the development of Black Power and the position of black Americans today.



## 3. The Industrial Revolution and the British Empire

This unit examines how Britain changed from a rural economy to an economic one. Pupils learn how the factory system developed and children were exploited in the mills. An enquiry is carried out into the impact of new transport systems such as the railway. Pupils also learn about the growth of democracy and the role of the suffragettes. A study is carried out about why Britain wanted an Empire and the impact this had on life in Britain and the colonies. In particular, students learn about transportation to Australia and the impact of this on the Aborigine people and Australia today. In addition, a study of India under British rule is carried out, examining the significance of Gandhi in the campaign for Indian independence.



## Year 9

### 1. The First World War

This unit examines why the First World War broke out with a study of the five big European powers in 1914. Pupils learn about the impact of propaganda and Kitchener's volunteers. A detailed enquiry about life on the Western Front is carried out, with a focus on the horrors of the battle of the Somme. Pupils study the art and war poems of the time and examine the consequences of the Treaty of Versailles.



### 2. Rise of the Dictators

This unit examines the creation of dictatorships in Russia, Italy and Germany in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Starting with Russia, pupils examine the terrible rule of the last Tsar Nicholas II with the resulting Russian Revolutions of 1917, which eventually saw Lenin come to power and Russia become the first Communist country in the world. Pupils then study the rule of Stalin and how the Soviet Union became a world superpower but at a huge human cost. Following on, the pupils learn about Mussolini's dictatorship in Italy and Nazi Germany under Adolf Hitler looking for similarities and differences in their totalitarian rule.



### 3. **Second World War**

This unit examines the causes of the Second World War and whether Hitler or Britain and France were to blame for the conflict. Students study the key events of the war such as the Dunkirk evacuations, the D Day landings and the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Pupils also look at the impact of the war on the Home Front, with evacuation and the Blitz leading to calls for a fairer post war Britain.



### 4. **The Holocaust**

This unit examines the causes and horrific consequences of the Holocaust in which 6 million Jews lost their lives at the hands of Hitler and his Nazi regime.

