Subject: History

Kay Stage 3 Curriculum Plan

Year: 8

Department Information:

4 lessons a fortnight
Teachers: Mr Furkins (subject leader), Mrs Clark, Mr Burrows, Mrs Thompson, Mr Goodbody, Mr Pinkerton, Mr Buckley

Curriculum aims and intent:

The History department is committed to ensuring all pupils make excellent progress in History and develop a passionate understanding of the past. We do this by encouraging curiosity about the breadth and depth of human experience to develop students into global citizens.

Students take a more global perspective of history in year 8 starting with the British Empire and looking at its impact on Britain and the world. Students then study the Russian Revolution; what sowed the seeds of revolution, the course of what happened and the impact and consequences of it. Students then move on to look at both World Wars, the interwar years and finish the year by studying the holocaust. Students will develop 6 key historical skills and concepts: continuity and change, cause and consequence, similarity and difference, significance, sources, and interpretations.

Resources used to support learning:

We use several textbooks that run parallel to our lessons. KS3 - The British Empire (A depth study), KS3 - 20th century world, Technology, War and Independence, 1901-present day and UCL - Understanding the Holocaust

BBC bitesize KS3 history provides links and extra information for many of our topics studies:

Home Learning:

Students will be set a homework each week by their class teacher. This will be a combination of research, writing and project-based work.

Assessment:

Formative: Each lesson provides an opportunity for assessment through live-feedback, questioning and show me boards. Practice of each key skill will be ongoing.

Summative: Each half-term focuses on assessing one of the key skills that make an outstanding historian. These will be used to create the AP1 and AP2 data reports.

How parents can help their child:

Encourage further reading and research around the topic that students are studying in each half-term.

Documentaries, films and podcasts can be viewed/listened to enabling more knowledge and depth of understanding regarding the topics students are studying in each half-term.

Term	Summary of work being covered	Knowledge, Understanding and skills assessed	How the work is assessed	Career Links
1	The British Empire and The Slave Trade How did Britain develop an Empire? What was the impact of doing so? What was Britain's role in the Transatlantic Slave Trade and the abolition movement.	Key Skill 6: Interpretations	Summative assessment: How do historians interpretations of the British Empire differ?	Museum Curator – decides how historical stories are presented to the public. Human Rights Campaigner – explores how past injustices shape modern debates. Author – uses evidence and perspectives to tell historical stories.
2	Russian Revolution Why was there a communist revolution in 1917? What was the impact of this? How did Russia change from 1917 up until World War 2.	Key Skill 1: Continuity and Change	Summative assessment: To what extent was Russia changed by the Revolution?	Political Journalist – explains political change over time. Civil Servant – helps governments manage reforms and transitions. Economic Historian – studies how societies change while some features remain the same.
3	World War 1 Why did the World go to war in 1914? What were the experiences of soldiers like? How did weapons and technology change?	Key Skill 2: Cause and consequence	Summative assessment: What caused the First World War?	Diplomat – works to prevent conflicts between nations. Intelligence Analyst – identifies factors that contribute to major events. Risk Consultant – analyses causes of problems and predicts consequences.
4	The interwar years - 1918-1939 The Treaty of Versailles and post-WW1 world. The 1920s boom and bust, Great Depression and impact.	Key Skill 3: Similarities and differences	Summative assessment: How similar were the 1920s in the USA and Britain?	Anthropologist – compares cultures and societies. International Development Officer – examines differences in how countries develop. Market Research Analyst – compares trends and behaviours across groups.
5	World War 2 An overview of the war, significant events, campaigns and contributions of different countries, the atomic bomb and the end of war.	Key Skill 4: Significance	Summative assessment: Which country made the most significant contribution in defeating Germany and Japan in WW2?	Heritage Manager – protects places and events considered important. Documentary Filmmaker – communicates why key events matter. Commemorations Officer – organises remembrance activities linked to significant historical events.
6	The Holocaust How did the holocaust happen? A study how it began and escalated and how a personal look at the lives it affected.	Key Skill 5: Source Analysis	Summative assessment: How do sources A and B differ?	Archivist – preserves and catalogues historical records. Forensic Investigator – examines evidence to establish facts. Fact-Checker – verifies the accuracy and reliability of information.