



Curriculum Overview

Subject: History

Year: 8

Rationale:

- to explore two centuries of dramatic change in Britain after the Medieval period studied in Year 7
- to explore how political power has evolved from Royal to Parliamentary
- to explore the development of the modern technological world during the Industrial Revolution
- to evaluate the global impact of British history by examining the slave trade and the American West

Units of Work

1	Golden Age of Elizabeth
2	English Civil War
3	Industrial Revolution
4	British Empire
5	Slavery
6	The American West

Key Knowledge development:

KS4 topics embedded throughout Year 8, alongside core History skills.

- to understand key features of the reign of Elizabeth I
- to explore the causes and consequences of the English Civil War
- to understand the significance of the Industrial Revolution and the impact on peoples' lives
- to evaluate the positive and negative impacts of the British Empire
- to understand key features of the Transatlantic slave trade

Key Skills development:

KS4 skills embedded throughout Year 8, alongside core History skills.

- Chronology
- Causation
- Consequence
- Source analysis
- How to plan and write effectively
- Extended written explanation
- Extended written analysis

Assessments

Teachers assess student progress via regular book marking and end-of-unit assessments, offering a range of formative and summative feedback. In addition, students engage with pee- and self-assessment. History assessment questions include:

- Was Elizabeth's reign a Golden Age?
- Civil War source analysis
- Report on Industrial Revolution living conditions
- To what extent was the British Empire a force for good?

Assessment questions either/or:

12 mark 'explain' GCSE question type

16 mark 'How far' GCSE question type

SMSC/British Values/Careers:

- Working conditions
- Cultural diversity
- Crown and Parliament
- Public Health Act
- Human rights and dignity

Literacy/Numeracy:

- Reading and interpreting written sources
- Collating information from a range of different source materials
- Extended written assessments
- Population graphs

Curriculum enrichment:

- Proposed Y8 visit to Coalbrookdale during activities week

