

History

The study of History at Acle Academy is designed to engage, inspire and challenge all of our students throughout their time at our school. It is a valued academic subject which provides young people with the transferable skills necessary to succeed both in education and beyond.

History students will be able to decipher difficult texts and take from them only the most relevant points; they will become proficient in debating and able to argue their point using the best available evidence to support them; they will develop the ability to prioritise and identify the significance of the people and events they study. History encourages independent learning and enhances students' communication and presentation skills.

History is a fascinating subject and a popular option choice at our school. We study a vast and varied array of topics all of which offer something for everyone. Equally, in history we have developed some excellent educational trips which include a four day trip to Moscow for GCSE students and a three day trip to the Battlefield of France and Belgium for Year 9 students. We are constantly striving to find ways to make history trips accessible for all and continue to develop ideas for local trips for all year groups.

History Curriculum for Years 7-9

The schemes of work in History follow the National Curriculum as recommended by the government. This means that our students are learning the most significant events in history. They have been written by our History Department in such a way that ensures all students of all abilities are well catered for. The lessons offer a variety of opportunities and ways of learning for students and include the use of ICT; presentations; group and paired work and problem solving. All of the year groups focus on chronological understanding; change and continuity in society; causes and consequences of events; significance and interpretation. Students in years 7 - 9 predominantly study British history.

Programme of Study in Year 7:

- **What is history?**
Introduction to the subject and the key concepts
- **The Roman Empire:** The invasion and conquering of Britain; the success of the Roman Army and life in Roman Britain.
- **The Norman Conquest:** claimants to the throne after the death of Edward the Confessor;
- The Battles of Stamford Bridge and Hastings; William the Conqueror; the Feudal System.
- **Power of the Church:** the significance of religion in Medieval England and the hierarchy of the church
- **Murder of Becket:** significance of his murder and the changing balance between the church & state
- **The Magna Carta:** cultural and political change; reduction in the power of the monarchy and the beginnings of the constitution

- **Black Death:** impact on society; causes and consequences
- **Peasants' Revolt:** political change; peasant identity

Programme of Study in Year 8

- A disunited kingdom; England 1485: The War of the Roses and the birth of the Tudor Dynasty
- Henry VIII - his rule, his wives and their significance; the Break from Rome, Pilgrimage of Grace and the Dissolution of the Monasteries
- Bloody Mary - Religious roller coaster; persecution of the protestants
- The Golden Age - reign of Elizabeth I; why was it the Golden Age; execution of Mary, Queen of Scots and the defeat of the Spanish Armada; religious tolerance and the emergence of empire
- The Stuarts - James I 'wisest fool in Christendom'; back to religious persecution and the Gunpowder Plot
- Charles I and the English Civil War looking and the divisions caused in society and the significance of the execution of the monarch and the consequences; emergence of Cromwell - was he a Hero or Villain? Students complete a project piece of work
- Great Plague and Great Fire and the impact on society
- Scientific Revolution - look at the emergence of medicine and inventions/ discoveries that begin to place Britain at the forefront of change

Programme of Study in Year 9

- Slavery - its significance to an emerging economy and empire; impact on society; life as a slave; the abolitionist movement and the significance of William Wilberforce.
- British Empire - thematic links to the Roman Empire; consequences of imperialism
- Franchise/Suffragettes
- Causes of World War One - why did war break out in 1914; trench warfare; conscription and war propaganda; evaluate the changing ways of warfare; analyse the consequences of the Great War and the significance of the Treaty of Versailles
- The Holocaust - consider how 'ordinary men' could be involved in genocide; lessons learnt from it and debate the impact of them
- 20th century dictators and their rise, significance and impact



GCSE History at KS4: 3 examinations

Exam board: Edexcel



Paper 1 Medicine in Britain, c1250 – present and The British Sector of the Western Front, 1914-18: injuries, treatment and the trenches

Section A: historic environment: WWI Trenches

Students answer a question that assesses knowledge plus a two-part question based on two provided sources.

Section B: thematic study: Medicine in Britain

Students answer three questions that assess their knowledge and understanding. The first two questions are compulsory. For the third question, students answer one from a choice of two.

This is worth 30% of your overall GCSE grade. Exam duration: 1 hour 15 minutes.

Paper 2: British Depth Study: Early Elizabethan Era, 1558-88

Period Study: Superpower Relations & the Cold War, 1941-91

Section A: Period study

Students answer three questions that assess their knowledge and understanding. The first two questions are compulsory. For the third question, students select two out of three parts.

Section B: British depth study

Students answer a single three-part question that assesses their knowledge and understanding. The first two parts are compulsory. For the third part, students select one from a choice of two.

This is worth 40% of your overall GCSE grade. Exam duration: 1 hour 45 minutes.

Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918 – 1939.

Section A: Students answer a question based on a provided source and a question that assesses their knowledge and understanding.

Section B: Students answer a single four-part question, based on two provided sources and two provided interpretations.

This is worth 30% of your overall GCSE grade. Exam duration: 1 hour 20 minutes.