



H I S T O R Y D E P A R T M E N T

OUR PHILOSOPHY

At the core of what we do in History is recognition not only that children have varying abilities, but that they also learn in a variety of ways. We strive, therefore, to ensure that there is no standard pattern to History lessons and that the teaching styles, learning resources and outcomes are as varied and engaging as possible. It is also our policy to make History a vehicle for the cross-curricular provision of Literacy, PSE, ICT and Citizenship. This reflects a belief that the subject should not be seen in isolation from the broader work of the school and its community.

OUR TEAM

The team consists of 9 full-time and 1 part-time members who all teach across the age and ability range. This means that everyone teaches at least one subject at advanced level because the department offers Sociology and Politics at A Level in addition to History. We have developed a collegiate approach to the production of schemes of work and resources; this means that all courses are well organised and adequately resourced. Whilst these are not set in stone and fresh input is always welcome, any new colleagues would benefit from having these resources in place to enable them to concentrate on their teaching and learning. We have support for daily administration and the organisation of trips.

OUR CURRICULUM

KS3

Students in Years 7 and 8 are taught in mixed ability tutor groups but are set in Year 9. They have 2 hours of History teaching in Year 7, 8 and 9. Students study the following areas:

- Year 7 – Rulers and Ruled: Britain 1066 to the Modern Day
- Year 8 – Empire and Equality: The British Empire and Civil Rights
- Year 9 – Conflict and Co-operation: The Twentieth Century World

KS4

History is a popular choice at GCSE. We follow the AQA syllabus and study the following units:

- Germany, 1890–1945: Democracy and dictatorship
- Conflict and tension in Asia, 1950–1975
- Britain: Power and the people: c1170 to the present day
- Elizabethan England, c1568–1603

KS5

The History course is German and British based at both AS and A2 and follows the AQA syllabus. The full A-level courses are:

- Germany: The Quest for Political Stability, 1871-1991
- Britain: Wars and Welfare, 1906-1957

OUR FACILITIES

We are based in our own area that consists of 7 classrooms and an office, in the Newport Pagnell campus, which is large enough for everyone to gather in for coffee and support. At the Olney campus we share a number of classrooms and an office, with the other humanities subjects. The department is well resourced, and has benefited from regular acquisitions of new textbooks and multimedia resources to meet curriculum changes.