



St Paul's Academy History Curriculum Overview

Why we teach history?

History helps students to understand the world in which we live today through studying events in the past. We use a variety of learning techniques to help students develop communication and written skills. They will find out about causes and consequences of events locally, nationally and internationally. We aim to develop important historical skills through the use of sources and to comprehend and apply essential concepts such as utility, provenance and significance. The factors of power, religion and economics are at the core of many lessons, as well as human behaviour where sensitive issues such as racism, religious intolerance and gender inequality are confronted.

Although History is very important subject to support citizenship and to build a life-long interest, it is also very skills based. It requires and promotes important life skills that are essential in the world of work and an understanding of life today. Students learn to process information and quantify its utility, as well as develop frameworks to communicate ideas and to demonstrate debate and argument. These skills are essential for business and careers in media, public service and human resources. At university level, History is a 'facilitating' subject which means it is preferred for courses such as journalism, business, the civil service, the police, the law and teaching, where an analytical mind is needed to debate and problem solve challenging projects. History is a route to many careers and helps the development of students' skills through the use of historical sources and emphasis upon questioning their significance and utility. Students will produce both oral and written answers that demand evidence and explanation. They will come to understand key concepts such as propaganda, tone and message.

Disciplinary Knowledge

Causes and Consequences

Students will understand that events occur for a variety of reasons and timescales such as long-term and short-term causes. As students progress through their study of History they will come to understand the greater complexities of historical events and outcomes.

Change and Continuity

Students will develop their understanding that both development and regression are possible in the past and that History is not a linear march towards progress. As students progress through their study of History they will come to understand that there are underlying continuities in historical events.

Significance and Importance

Students will develop their understanding of both important events as well as people and the contributions and setbacks that they have caused.

Similarities and Differences

Students are encouraged to compare different lived experiences and to look for both commonalities and variance in life in the past.

Historical Enquiry

Students will learn to question the world around them and will be enabled to ask challenging questions of the past.

Sources and Interpretation

Students will be exposed to a variety of sources from the past and interpretations of events from the past such as cartoons, photographs, diaries, articles and films. Students will develop their skills of analysis of these sources through their use of contextual knowledge.

Chronological Understanding

Students will develop a big picture of the past, which helps them to understand both Britain's part in the world and events have unfolded on a global scale.

Substantive Knowledge

Political

Military, Government and Power

Social

Society, Culture and the people

Economic

Economy and finance

Religion

Religious beliefs and influences



Learning for Life and Careers

Employability skills

Literacy, Research, Analysis, Creativity, Leadership, Organisation, Resilience, Initiative, Communication, Empathy, Debating, Evaluation, Justifying.

Linking the curriculum to careers

History enables students to develop a range of skills which are suitable for many career pathways. Students are also able to develop their understand of range of topics such as medicine through time, the military and warfare and human rights.

Examples of qualification pathways

Civil Service, Emergency Services, Armed Forces, Counselling, Entertainment Management, Journalism, Law, Politics, Education, Social Work, Human Resources, Financial Services, Local Government.