



Year 8 History Curriculum Overview

Rationale: The Year 8 curriculum is designed to give students an understanding of British history from 1500 through to 1900. They will explore the most interesting topics from this period with a focus on the Reformation and the religious wars which followed, looking at topics such as Bloody Mary, the reign of Elizabeth I and the English Civil War. From 1750 to 1900 we will look at the modernising industrial age with a focus on political and social reform. Students will develop their capacity to analyse sources and produce extended pieces of enquiry based writing.

Term/Length of Time	Outline	Assessment/Teacher Feedback Opportunities	Homework and Literacy resources
Autumn 1	<p>History in year 8 begins with the causes of the Reformation as we begin 200 hundred years of religious conflict as England comes to terms with the impact of this change of religion, ending over 1000 years of Catholicism in England and the influence of the Pope.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The causes and consequences of Henry VIII and the Reformation in England Edward VI and his Protestant reforms Mary I her Catholic reforms and whether she deserves the epitaph Bloody Mary. <p>Careers information – Conservation officer</p>	<p>The causes of the Reformation</p> <p>Skills assessed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the key features and characteristics of the periods studied. Explain and analyse historical events and periods studied using second order historical concepts. Analyse, evaluate and use sources (contemporary to the period) to make substantiated judgements, in the context of historical events studied. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key word spelling test Assessment revision activity on the Reformation A research project or presentation on Henry VIII's or Lady Jane Grey <p>Optional homework tasks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A research project on the origins of the Reformation in Germany under Martin Luther Engage with the range of topics and activities on BBC Bitesize https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zhqcg7h
Autumn 2	<p>The wars over religion continue this term with Elizabeth I returning England to the Protestant faith and attempts by Catholics to return England to the old religion. We also begin looking at the English Civil War under the Stuarts who ruled England following the death of Elizabeth I in 1603, which led to Charles I's execution and the Interregnum under Oliver Cromwell.</p>	<p>How well did Elizabeth deal with the problems of her reign?</p> <p>Skills assessed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the key features and characteristics of the periods studied. Explain and analyse historical events and periods studied using second order historical concepts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key word spelling test Assessment revision activity on how well Elizabeth I dealt with her problems A Black History month research activity <p>Optional homework tasks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A research project on the plots to assassinate Elizabeth, including the Revolt of the Northern Earls, Throckmorton Plot and Ridolfi Plot

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elizabeth I, her Protestant reforms and how well she dealt with the problems of her reign: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The religious settlement and its effectiveness The plots to overthrow Elizabeth and re-impose the catholic faith. This includes the Babington Plot. The Spanish Armada and why England was successful. Poverty and how effectively the state responded. James I, the Divine Right of Kings and the Gunpowder Plot, 1605. Charles I and the causes of the English civil war. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyse, evaluate and use sources (contemporary to the period) to make substantiated judgements, in the context of historical events studied. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage with the range of topics and activities on BBC Bitesize https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zhqcg7h
Spring 1	<p>We continue with the English Civil War, looking at the reasons behind the execution of Charles I, life under Oliver Cromwell and the declining power of monarchs following the Restoration of the monarchy under Charles I in 1660.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The English civil war and the execution of Charles I. Life under Oliver Cromwell, 1649-1660. The Restoration and the declining power of Kings including the Glorious Revolution, 1688 and the Bill of Rights. <p>Careers information – Architect</p>	<p>Oliver Cromwell interpretations</p> <p>Skills assessed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the key features and characteristics of the periods studied. Explain and analyse historical events and periods studied using second order historical concepts. Analyse, evaluate and use sources (contemporary to the period) to make substantiated judgements, in the context of historical events studied. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key word spelling test Assessment revision activity on Oliver Cromwell A research or presentation on the impact of the English Civil War in Warwickshire <p>Optional homework tasks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A research project on the Georgian monarchy Engage with the range of topics and activities on BBC Bitesize https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zhqcg7h
Spring 2	<p>This term we look at various aspects of life during the Restoration as we work our way to the beginnings of the industrial period and British dominance during the 19th century.</p>	<p>Were women second class citizens in the period 1500-1700? Interpretations and source analysis</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key word spelling test Assessment revision activity on interpretations of women Witch finder guide research booklet

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Great Plague and the Great Fire of London, 1666. Why was there a witch craze in this period? Were women second class citizens in the period 1500-1700? What was the scientific revolution? 	<p>Skills assessed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the key features and characteristics of the periods studied. Explain and analyse historical events and periods studied using second order historical concepts. Analyse, evaluate and use sources (contemporary to the period) to make substantiated judgements, in the context of historical events studied. 	<p>Optional homework tasks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A research project on 17th century medicine looking at William Harvey, Robert Hooke and Thomas Sydenham Engage with the range of topics and activities on BBC Bitesize https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zhqcg7h
Summer 1	<p>This term we look at the industrial revolution and its impact on society, with a focus on political and social reform.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The causes of the industrial revolution. The slave trade and its abolition. The Poor Law, 1834 and the creation of the workhouse. The use of child labour in factories, mines and agriculture and its abolition. 	<p>Why was slavery abolished?</p> <p>Skills assessed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the key features and characteristics of the periods studied. Explain and analyse historical events and periods studied using second order historical concepts. Analyse, evaluate and use sources (contemporary to the period) to make substantiated judgements, in the context of historical events studied. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key word spelling test Assessment revision activity on the abolition of slavery A Britain's Got Talent project on early industrial revolution entrepreneurs <p>Optional homework tasks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A research project on Leamington Spa and Warwickshire workhouses Engage with the range of topics and activities on BBC Bitesize https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zhqcg7h
Summer 2	<p>This term we look at the industrial revolution and its impact on society, with a focus on political and social reform.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The use of child labour in factories, mines and agriculture and its abolition. The reasons for and limitations of 19th century political reform. 	<p>Multiple choice quiz on all topics studies this year.</p> <p>Skills assessed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the key features and characteristics of the periods studied. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key word spelling test Assessment revision activity on the period 1500-1900 A research project on the 19th century development of Leamington Spa <p>Optional homework tasks</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public health reform.• What was the position of women during the 19th century? <p>International Schools project – India</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A research project on Joseph Bazalgette and his construction of London’s sewers• Engage with the range of topics and activities on BBC Bitesize https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zhqcg7h
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