



History

Room: Shades Café

What the Students Say

"I like the variety of topics we study and the fact that it is a mixture of taught content and independent learning. You don't just get lectured at in History".

"History is definitely challenging but, at the same time, you get a lot out of it. I really like the fact that the History teachers are really interested in everything we do and allow us to draw our own conclusions from the topics we study"

What Is This Course About?

History equips you with the skills required by top universities and expected by employers of all kinds. You will be encouraged to conduct work independently and to manage competing demands on your time effectively. Moreover, you will gain valuable skills of argument and analysis, as well as being encouraged to develop your own style when debating or writing.

History equips you with the knowledge and understanding of the past necessary for an understanding of the present, and an ability to influence the future. It also teaches you to think critically, and the ability to interpret and evaluate sources. These are crucial skills in a world where we are bombarded with information.

What Will I Learn?

We study two topics in depth over the course of the A Level, plus you will have the opportunity to conduct a detailed piece of historical research to produce a piece of coursework. Our two examined topics are the Cold War (1945 – 1991) and the Tudors (1485 – 1603). We study the first half of these courses in year 12 and the remainder in Year 13. The independently researched project accounts for 20% of the A Level and will be studied at the end of Year 12. Here we explore the civil rights struggle in America between 1863 and 1968. There are two exams that take place at the end of Year 13 and account for 40% each.

Where Will It Take Me?

Higher Education - History is widely regarded as a subject which opens doors to students. History is one of only eight subjects on the Russell Group's list of 'facilitating subjects' – those subjects thought to prepare you for a wide range of university degrees.



Employment – History equips you with the skills required to work in all walks of life. Law, journalism, accountancy, and politics are just some areas where historians are welcomed. Employers value the skills possessed by students of History. They will be better at working through large projects, better at analysing competing sources of evidence and better at presenting their findings in a coherent written format. Students of History should feel well-prepared to enter a range of different professions.

What Other Opportunities Exist Outside of Class?

In the past, we have taken students to attend A Level History conferences in London, to hear visiting professors speak on the Tudors locally and even to see the musical 'Six'! Students in Year 12 have the opportunity to participate in the 'Lessons from Auschwitz' project which includes a guided visit to the Auschwitz concentration camp in Poland.