

Overview of Year 8 History Curriculum

Pupils will study two main units, The Making of the United Kingdom and Britain 1750-1900, with a focus of a world study before 1914, i.e., The Black Peoples of Americas. Pupils will continue to apply and develop the historical skills they learnt in Year 7, in order to find and evaluate evidence and reach conclusions.

The Making of the United Kingdom 1485 - 1714

Pupils will be taught about the major political, social and religious changes in Britain during the reign of the Tudors and the Stuarts. The main focus will be on the challenges faced by Monarchs during this period, and how they overcome them, the conflict between Parliament and the monarchy, and the causes and the consequences of key events as the Great Plague and the Fire of London.

Britain 1750 - 1900 Pupils will be taught about the causes and consequences of industrialisation in Britain. The focus will be on the revolutions that took place in agriculture, industry and transport during this period, and their impact. Within this unit pupils will study in some depth the experience of the Black Peoples of the Americas, and learn about the reasons for the results of the slave trade.

Homework

This is set once a week and supports work in the classroom. This will include written work; research about various people or events and revision for tests. Pupils are encouraged to complete this work to the best of their ability and use, where possible, ICT to develop their technological skills.

Examinations/Key assessments

There are six Key Assessments in Year 8; four are based on The Making of the United Kingdom Unit and two focus on the unit of Britain 1750-1900. These are assessed according to the National Curriculum Levels in History. Pupils will also complete two end of unit tests on the Tudors and the Stuarts, where a percentage mark will be awarded.

How Parents can help

Ensure that History homework is recorded regularly once a week and is completed to a high standard. Please encourage your child to use the library and research work on the Internet. Useful sites such as www.historyonline.com will help their homework. Pupils should write up any information found in their own words, as simply downloading information does not always infer understanding. Also check that your son has the equipment needed for lessons, such as a pen.