

Year 7 History

The Year 7 curriculum is designed to give students an understanding of the world they live in by studying political, economic, religious and social changes between 1066 and 1688. This is developed further in Year 8 with students studying the changes in Britain and the world in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

The programme of study begins by developing key historical skills, such as source handling, by looking specifically at Richmond 100 years ago and using primary sources such as the census, photographs and a site investigation to engage the students in historical research as well as studying some local History.

After the first half term, Year 7 students use the skills learnt in their study of British History from 1066, beginning with the events surrounding the Battle of Hastings. This is developed further in the spring term by looking at the impact of the invasion and what life was like for people in medieval England. With Richmond being a medieval town, this is an excellent opportunity for students to investigate medieval life further and all students will have the opportunity to explore the castle and see first-hand the impact of the Norman conquest and the development of the medieval town.

In the summer term, students will deepen their knowledge further by looking specifically at the religious changes in Europe with the Reformation and its impact on Britain with the policies of Henry VIII and other Tudor monarchs. This is also explored on a local level with the dissolution of Easby Abbey and the burning of the Protestant Richard Snell being studied. The religious changes of the 16th century are connected to the final topic studied in Year 7, the political changes in the 17th century. Students will look at the arguments between king and parliament over who has the most power and specifically focus on the civil war. This will give the students the building blocks to understand the changes in the 19th and 20th centuries which will be studied in Year 8.

Methods of deepening and securing knowledge:	
Retrieval practice	Retrieval practice is evident through starter activities where students use prior learning to complete a low stakes quiz, complete a matching task or offer their opinion on a topic. An image or cartoon is often used to aid students' retrieval of information Reflective plenaries often link to prior learning as well as to current learning.
Elaboration	Students are encouraged to elaborate by using strategies such as think pair share as well as explaining their reasoning for opinions. They verbally and in written form expand on their ideas and justify their opinions and these are often shared with the whole class.
Concrete examples	Concrete examples are used with assessment work or longer pieces of written work as students can see how to structure their ideas and include precise examples and explanation to improve their marks. Past projects, such as on the suffragettes, are used to show the variety and quality of work that can be produced.

	Autumn term 1	Autumn term 2	Spring term 1	Spring term 2	Summer term 1	Summer term 2
Topic(s)	What is History? - Local History study of Richmond - What is History? - Evidence - Chronology - Richmond 100 years ago - Richmond School 100 years ago	Battle of Hastings and Norman control - Contenders to the throne - Events of 1066 - Why did William win?	Medieval life - Impact of Norman conquest - Domesday - Medieval life - Worst jobs - Black Death	Medieval life - Motte and Bailey castles - Castle development Monarchs - Overview of kingship and monarchs - Thomas Beckett and Henry II - King John - Richard III	Religious changes in England 1509-1603 - Catholic and Protestant differences - Break with Rome - Edward VI's church - Bloody Mary - Elizabethan settlement - Local history	Power and Politics 1603-1688 - Why did Parliament execute the king? - Charles' execution - Interregnum - Glorious Revolution Overview of political changes (1066-1688)
Assessment	- Richmond assessment	- Causation - Battle of Hastings			- Source analysis on Bloody Mary	