

# History

*The History Department of St Thomas More Catholic School aims to encourage a passion for the study of History and a curiosity about the past; to develop students' understanding not just of the nature of change, but also of the large processes in history driving change. We also seek to embed the teaching of the values of democracy, equality, justice, truth, empathy and tolerance through engaging stories and enquiries.*

## Key Stage 3 and 4

The History Department curriculum has been built around the following Second Order Concepts that students need to grasp, develop and explore throughout their learning journey:

Change and Continuity	Similarities and Difference	Cause and Consequence	Significance
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In Key Stage 3 we aim to equip our students with a strong understanding of key themes that run like threads throughout our broad and exciting curriculum. As students build a chronological picture of the history of Britain, Europe and the wider world, they will be able to make links and connections to things that were happening at other times and in other places. Some of our themes include democracy, power & protest; invasion & conquest; migration and empires and can be found in topics in every year of the curriculum. As we progress through our Key Stage 3 curriculum we will gradually develop and deepen students' knowledge and understanding.

Students begin in Year 7 by learning the story of Britain, which they do through themes of invasion, conquest but also of daily life, religion and power. This will form an excellent foundation upon which to build in Year 8 where they will resume the story in the early modern era but then branch out to other parts of the world and the impact of empire and expansion on the lives of people. In Year 9 we look at how those developments we have studied created the political situation at the start of the 20th Century and how this in turn went onto shape the world we live in today.

The table below shows you the topics pupils will study throughout Key Stage 3:

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Year 7	<p><b>How did the Normans change Britain?</b></p> <p>1a) What was England like before 1066?</p> <p>1b) How did William Duke of Normandy gain control of England?</p>	<p><b>How important was religion in the Middle Ages?</b></p> <p>2a) What was it like to live in Medieval England?</p> <p>2b) How did religion impact life in Medieval England?</p>	<p><b>How far did England change under the early Tudors?</b></p> <p>3a) What was life like in Tudor England?</p> <p>3b) What was the impact of the Reformation?</p>
Year 8	<p><b>How far did the power of monarchy change as a result of the Civil War?</b></p> <p>1a) To what extent was</p>	<p><b>Was the British Empire a 'force for good'?</b></p> <p>2a) What impact did the British Empire have on India?</p>	<p><b>Was the Industrial Revolution 'the best of times' or 'the worst of times'?</b></p> <p>3a) What was the impact of</p>

	Elizabeth's reign a 'Golden Age'? 1b) What were the causes and outcomes of the English Civil War?	2b) Was the impact of the British Empire the same everywhere?	the Industrial Revolution on different areas of society? 3b) How significant was mining to everyday life in the North East?
<b>Year 9</b>	<b>What impact did World War I have on Europe?</b> 1a) Why did Europe go to war in 1914 and what challenges did it bring? 1b) Why were the Russian people so unhappy in 1917 and did the Revolution solve their problems?	<b>What impact did WWII have on the lives of people?</b> 2a) What impact did WWII have on the lives of people? 2b) Why must everyone learn about the Holocaust?	<b>What was life like under Nazi rule?</b> 3a) How did Hitler dismantle German democracy and create his dictatorship? 3b) How did the Nazis cement their control and combat opposition?

Having built a broad capital of knowledge, understanding and also key skills of analysis and evaluation in Key Stage 3, our Key Stage 4 students will build on the strong foundations we have established. GCSE History requires our students to develop a keen conceptual understanding of a range of ideas and themes. At GCSE we want our students to appreciate that our understanding of the past is not fixed and that the established facts of events can, and have been, interpreted differently over time. Students are required to develop their understanding of what causes historical events and what impact these events have. We also want our students to develop their confidence in critiquing and questioning interpretations of the past.

The table below shows you the topics pupils will study throughout Key Stage 4:

	<b>Term 1</b>	<b>Term 2</b>	<b>Term 3</b>
<b>Year 10</b>	Living Under Nazi Rule	People's Health	History Around Us: Prudhoe Castle
<b>Year 11</b>	Elizabethans	The Making of America	Consolidation and revision

## Key Stage 5

We are ambitious for our Sixth Form students. They have selected to study History with us because they love the subject and have a genuine interest in further study. It is our role to nurture and develop that interest, with inspiring lessons that equip them with the skills and the desire to take their studies to undergraduate level, if they so wish. At A-Level we want our students to fully develop and express their own opinions on the past using methodical reasoning and historical processes. At this level our students are beginning to fully utilise the various processes they have been taught in lower school. Our students will be taught how to be independent historical researchers and how to critique interpretations of the past, building their own unique view of events. Our students are required to grasp the concept of basing their interpretation on historical evidence and justifying why they hold their own interpretations.

The table below shows you the topics pupils will study throughout Key Stage 5:

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
<b>Year 12</b>	<p><b>Tudors</b> - Henry VII and Henry VIII's rebellions</p> <p><b>Germany</b> - Creation of the Weimar Republic</p> <p><b>Stuarts</b> - The reign of James I</p>	<p><b>Tudors</b> - Edward VI and Mary</p> <p><b>Germany</b> - The Weimar Golden Years</p> <p><b>Stuarts</b> - The reign of Charles I</p>	<p><b>Tudors</b> - Henry VII and Henry VIII's rebellions</p> <p><b>Germany</b> - Collapse of the Weimar Republic and rise of the Nazis; launch of topic based essay</p> <p><b>Stuarts</b> - Causes and events of the first English Civil war</p>
<b>Year 13</b>	<p><b>Tudors</b> - Causation &amp; Nature of disturbances</p> <p><b>Germany</b> - Nazi Society; topic based essay</p> <p><b>Stuarts</b> - The Commonwealth and Protectorate</p>	<p><b>Tudors</b> - Impact of disturbance and maintenance of political stability</p> <p><b>Germany</b> - Impact of the war</p> <p><b>Stuarts</b> - The Restoration of the monarchy</p>	<b>Consolidation and Revision</b>