



Curriculum Overview

Curriculum Area: HISTORY Year: 8

Year 8 Curriculum:

Autumn Term A: The reign of Elizabeth I (1558-1603)

All pupils will explore the significance of the reign of Elizabeth I. Pupils will be taught about the main issues that this female monarch faced in what was a male dominated society such as the threat of invasion, the issue of religion and how the successes of the early explorers led to the origins of what would later become the British Empire.

Autumn Term B: The Causes and Consequences of the English Civil Wars (1603-1689)

All pupils will explore how the events of the 17th century led to significant changes in Britain. Pupils will learn how the actions of Charles I led to the English Civil Wars in 1645 and what many described as 'the world turned upside down.' Pupils will also explore how the conclusion of this conflict led to significant changes in the changing role of monarchy and Parliament. Pupils will also examine how England became a Puritan state under the control of Oliver Cromwell and the affect that this had on people's lives.

Spring Term: The British Empire (1603-1945)

All pupils will learn about the significance of the British Empire. Pupils will make connections between the early explorers of the Elizabeth period and how this led to the colonies within the New World and contact with the Native Americans. Pupils will examine how early exploration and colonies led to the slave trade which became a central element of the British Empire. Pupils will also learn about the key figures that led to the abolition of the slave trade such as Olaudah Equiano and William Wilberforce as well as the contemporary views that were either in favour or opposition to the slave trade. All pupils will also explore the reasons why India was seen as 'the jewel in the crown' of the Empire as well as the impact of the Empire in Australia before examining its legacy both within history and the world that we live in today.

Summer Term: The Industrial Revolution (1750-1900)

All pupils will learn about the Industrial Revolution (1750-1900) which led to Britain becoming a global power in the 19th century. They will explore the changes to the population as a consequence of advances in medical care. All pupils will explore how the world of work changed from the domestic system to the rise of the factory. Moreover, all pupils will learn about how the world 'became smaller' with the creation of the railway and how this led to changes in industry, the creation of seaside resorts and even the start of the football leagues. All pupils will examine how many of these changes in Britain can be seen within the local area of Preston and Longridge. Furthermore, all pupils will learn about differing interpretations and attitudes towards the Industrial Revolution. For example, pupils will explore that not all people agreed with the changes of this period which led to protest, and in some cases, acts of violence, such as the Luddites and the Peterloo Massacre.

Links to National Curriculum

The development of Church, state and society in Britain 1509-1745 on the reign and significance of monarchs such as Elizabeth I. The impact of religion in England, the significance of a successful female monarch and the beginnings of England as a global nation.

The impact of the English Civil Wars and the changes to authority in terms of the monarchy and parliament.

Ideas, political power, industry and empire 1745-1901. The creation of a British Empire and characteristic features of past non-European societies. Understand concepts such as continuity and change through the understanding of the Industrial Revolution.

Knowledge and understanding of this curriculum will be assessed by:

Secure knowledge on the reasons for the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588.

Secure knowledge of the main reasons for the abolition of slavery in 1807.

Secure knowledge of different interpretations of factory conditions in the Industrial Revolution and the dangers/problems that people faced during the early 19th century.

Core knowledge homework tasks.

Powerful Knowledge/Cultural Capital Opportunities

Knowledge and understanding of how a female monarch proved to be a success within a patriarchal society.

Knowledge and understanding of how and why we have a democratic system of government in the UK today.

Knowledge and understanding of a culture of people (Native Americans) that was different to how we view society in the present world (non-European study). Understanding of the different historical perspectives and views of colonialism then and now.

Knowledge and understanding of how British cultural values have been shaped because of the British Empire.

Knowledge and understanding of the way in which our local area has been shaped and developed because of the Industrial Revolution.