

# History GCSE

**Exam Board: AQA**  
**Course Code: 8145**

**'This is your chance to learn about the past in order to create a better future.'**

## History course overview

History is all about people, their actions and the resulting changes. It asks you to examine the causes and consequences of historical events. It covers issues of political, social and economic change, and prompts you to make comparisons between the past and the present.

The course is taught by very experienced teachers. In lessons you will undertake inquiry work, analyse a range of information, discuss and debate key questions, and work on small projects. You will use a wide range of materials from books to music. You will develop good writing skills for essays and coursework.

## How is the course assessed?

There are two exam papers, with units covering both British and International History. All exams are sat at the end of Year 11. There is **no** coursework requirement.

### Paper 1: Understanding the modern world

- Section A: Period studies
  - *America, 1920-1973: Opportunity and inequality*
- Section B: Wider world depth studies
  - *Conflict and tension in Asia, 1950-1975*

### Paper 2: Shaping the nation

- Section A: Thematic study
  - *Britain: Migration, empires and the people, c.790 to the present day*
- Section B: British depth study and the historic environment
  - *Norman England, c.1066-c.1100*

We undertake a visit to Kenilworth Castle at the end of Year 10, to support the unit on Norman England.

## Is this course for you?

If you enjoy asking questions about the world around you, perhaps wondering how the society you live in has developed, then the study of History can provide many answers. Maybe you're interested in the background to the stories you hear on the news, or why some countries are in conflict with others around them? History can help to unravel those mysteries. You should enjoy reading and analysing information, discussion with others, and writing. In GCSE History we ask questions that often prompt lively debate, so a willingness to use evidence to argue a point of view is crucial. If you want to understand the world we live in, and to learn how to improve the future, History is the subject for you!

## What could this course lead to?

Studying History at GCSE can make a valuable contribution to a wide variety of careers (e.g. Medicine, Law, Media, Government, Finance, Journalism, etc.), as well as being a highly regarded stepping stone for many university degree courses. You will develop many transferable skills – such as analysing complex materials, constructing balanced arguments, interpreting data, working with others, and developing strong independent learning skills. These skills will allow you to make the transition to our A-Level course in the future, as well as providing a valuable foundation for many other subjects.

## Who can I contact for further advice or support?

Mr M Pailing, Head of Department: [mpailing@cityleicester.leicester.sch.uk](mailto:mpailing@cityleicester.leicester.sch.uk)



Norman England



The Historic Environment



The Roaring 20s



War in Vietnam



Civil Rights



Migration through History