



HISTORY DEPARTMENT

Head of Department:- Mr A J Bowman

History is a popular and well established subject at King Edward VI School, with currently 6 groups of students in Key Stage 4 and 4 groups in the Sixth Form. The Department has been highly successful for a number of years and has enjoyed a high level of examination success. The Department is very collaborative in style, has high professional standards and great enthusiasm for the subject. Students love history and recognise that they are very well taught.

ACCOMMODATION AND RESOURCES

All four History teachers are based in their own classrooms and all rooms have interactive whiteboards. One room has direct access to eight computers and staff ensure that the rooms are well decorated with students' work. At GCSE students use the OCR Modern World History textbooks and the Department has also produced a large number of presentations and other resources which are available for shared access.

TEACHING GROUPS

History is taught for three one-hour periods per fortnight in Years 7 and 9. In Year 8 students are taught for two hours per fortnight. They are taught in mixed ability groups at Key Stage 3. Group sizes tend to be 28-30. At GCSE groups are usually mixed ability but when possible and appropriate some setting on ability may occur. At A-level present group sizes vary between 12 and 18. There are usually at least two classes in both Year 12 & 13 and we teach a two-year linear course.

RESULTS

In 2016 the Department achieved a 64% A* - C pass rate at GCSE. Work has been done this year to raise this through intervention strategies and additional resources and we anticipate a rise in results in line with previous cohorts to over 70+% A* - C. A-level results have been of a consistently high standard with 64% of the cohort obtaining an A* - C grade in 2016 and 66% obtaining A-C at AS level. We have an inclusive ethos which supports all enthusiastic historians to pass the course at the full range of grades.

SYLLABUS DETAILS

At present students cover the following units of work:

Year 7	Medieval Realms
Year 8	The Making of the UK, the Industrial Revolution and World War One
Year 9	The Twentieth Century World
Year 10-11	OCR Modern World History Syllabus A (International Relations 1918-39; The Cold War 1945-80; The War on Terror; Germany 1925-55; The English Reformation; Power and Democracy 1000-2014 and the development of castles)
Year 12-13	AQA (England under the Tudors; The American Dream 1945-80 and the French Revolution) (NEA)

The Department also organises a range of visits and activities including a Year 9 visit to Ypres and the Somme, a Year 10 visit to Berlin. We have also undertaken visits to the Cold War museum at Cosford, The Imperial War Museum North and the National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas. A History Club also operates for interested students on a Thursday and is very popular.

The History Department is strong, committed and forward looking. The successful candidate will be expected to contribute fully to all aspects of the life of the Department. We are seeking a well qualified, imaginative individual with a high level of subject knowledge and a real passion for history. They will be expected to provide a varied programme of classroom experiences to engender a love of the subject in the student.