

# HISTORY

**Level :** AS and A2

**Examination Board :** OCR

History is a challenging and exciting subject in the Sixth Form and the department has chosen options that allow you to build on GCSE whilst also introducing a number of new topics.

## **Course content:**

The following topics will be offered in September:

**AS**      Unit 1   Anglo-Saxon England and the Norman Conquest 1050 - 1087  
            Unit 2   Italian Unification 1815 – 70

**A2**      Unit 3   The Cold War 1941 – 1956  
            Unit 4   Russia and its rulers 1855-1963

Students also complete a piece of independent research and writing which is linked to their Cold War studies. This can be about the Cold War or a related area of study (an event or person of importance from history) of particular interest can be chosen.

**Assessment:** The four modules are assessed as follows:

### **AS (Lower Sixth)**

#### **Unit 1: European study**

1 Hour/2 structured questions      50% of AS

#### **Unit 2: English History**

45 minutes/2 questions                      50% of AS

### **A2 (Upper Sixth)**

#### **Unit 3: Historical interpretations and Investigations**

Completion of 2 coursework essays of 2000 words - one is an investigation of Student's own choice) 20% of A level

#### **Unit4: Themes in History**

1.5 hours 2 essay questions- 30% of A Level

### **Requirements:**

Students wishing to take 'A' Level History must first enrol on the AS. The normal entry qualification will be a **Grade C or above at GCSE** but the department is willing to consider applications from students who have not taken GCSE History. AS examinations will be in January and during the summer term in the Lower Sixth. Those students wishing to proceed with the A2 course will need to have passed AS and to have demonstrated a certain level of competency and aptitude in study skills. All students taking History will receive advice and support from the department in the form of "academic mentoring" through which we will help you to maximise your potential in the subject.

'A' Level History students must have a genuine interest in the subject, together with commitment to wide background reading and a willingness to develop a clear yet analytical written style. In addition, it helps lively classroom debate if students are prepared to form ideas and opinions of their own on the subjects they are studying. The department has its own ICT and video facilities and appropriate use is made of these throughout the course.

### **Career opportunities:**

History is highly regarded as a route into higher education and although many of you may not wish to become professional historians, history can be a valuable preparation for a range of subjects such as law, psychology, management, communications, sociology and archaeology. It is also a subject that has a high credibility with many employers.

Please feel free to ask for advice from Mr. A. Morgan, Mr. A. Courtenay, Mr. Standen, Mr Dyer or Mr. G. Anthony.