

History at Samuel Whitbread Academy

<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Intent</p>	<p>Our History curriculum is ambitious and creative, and designed to empower our students with deep knowledge of diverse and contrasting attributes of the human experience. Our curriculum is diverse and challenging, studying democracies in twentieth century Britain and the USA, the holocaust, and the witch craze in early modern Britain, Europe and North America.</p> <p>The history that we explore challenges our students to appreciate our current British values of democracy, egalitarianism and tolerance, through study of the development of modern democracies contrasting with deeply challenging aspects of human nature revealed by the holocaust and the witch craze.</p> <p>We endeavour to create critical thinkers who are in secure possession of powerful knowledge and advanced skills in sustained analysis and substantiated evaluation of causation, consequence, change and continuity, similarity and difference, and historical significance.</p> <p>Our students are challenged to develop advanced literacy skills and deeper knowledge through reading, analysing and evaluating historians works beyond the core text books.</p>
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Implementation</p>	<p>Our curriculum is structured, sequenced and resourced to provide our students with maximised opportunity to fulfil their academic potential.</p> <p>Our curriculum in Year 12 is divided into two units that are taught concurrently. They are Britain transformed, 1918-1979, and USA; Boom, bust and recovery, 1920-1955. Our topics follow the Edexcel A-Level History curriculum. Britain transformed 1918-1979 is divided into five sections; the changing political and economic environment 1918-1979, creating a welfare state 1918-1979, Society in transition 1918-1979, the changing quality of life 1918-1979 and the impact of Thatcher's governments on Britain 1979-97. The USA; Boom, bust and recovery is divided into four sections; boom and crash 1920-29, depression and the New Deal 1929-38, the impact of the New Deal and Second World War on the USA to 1945 and the transformation of the USA 1945- 1955.</p> <p>Each section is divided into enquiry questions to drive and focus learning. There are knowledge tests for each section, a focus on key terms and literacy, and clear and structured development of the analytical and evaluative skills needed to answer examination questions. There are clear points to recap, recall, remember and embed previous learning. A range of assessments are deployed.</p>

Implementation

Key Stage 5: Year 12

- Britain transformed 1918-1979
- The USA, c1920–55: Boom, bust and recovery

Key Stage 5: Year 13

- The witch craze in Britain, Europe and North America, c1580–c1750
- Coursework: Interpretations of the holocaust

Impact

History is a popular subject with 50-60 students on our courses. Results are good and many of our students go on to university and other higher education. Our Intent and Implementation allow students to gain a knowledge of the past and how it shaped and created the present.

Through discussion of themes like politics, economy, culture and society, they are able to navigate our current world with a greater understanding of how we have arrived at this point. The skills that History provides are core skills for many employers, such as research, analysis, evaluation and reaching a judgement. They are also able to critically analyse primary sources and opinions. It also gives them skills to independently research and write large scale reports.

Students are regularly assessed throughout the course to establish and react to their level of understanding and progress for each of the subjects that they cover at KS5.