



History

Key Stage 3 (Years 7 to 9)

Unit	Topic	What students learn	Term
Year 7			
Unit 1 – Chronological Themed History	1.1 What can nursery rhymes tell us about history?	Using nursery rhymes as a way into the past: Old King Cole, the Great Fire of London, the Grand Old Duke of York, Mary I, the Plague and crime and religion in 'Oranges and Lemons'; assessment.	Autumn 1
Unit 2 – Medieval History	1.2 How much did the Norman Conquest change England?	England in 1066 and the claimants to the throne; Stamford Bridge and Hastings; how William used castles, the Domesday Book and the Harrying of the North to take control; assessment.	Autumn 2 / Spring 1
Unit 3 – Medieval History	1.3 How significant was the Black Death in changing England?	How the Black Death spread, its symptoms and attempted treatments, and historians' views of its impact.	Spring 1
Unit 4 – Medieval History	1.4 Why were the peasants angry enough to die in 1381?	The causes and events of the Peasants' Revolt, how Richard II ended it and whether the peasants won or lost; assessment.	Spring 1 / Spring 2
Unit 5 – Renaissance History	1.5 What can sources tell us about the Tudors?	From the Wars of the Roses to Elizabeth I: Henry VII and Henry VIII, the break with Rome, Catholic and Protestant beliefs, Edward VI and Mary I; end-of-year source assessment.	Spring 2 / Summer 1
Unit 6 – Renaissance History	1.6 Were the Stuarts good or bad for England?	James I and the Gunpowder Plot, the Great Fire, the Civil War and Oliver Cromwell, witchcraft, Charles II, the Glorious Revolution and science in the Stuart age.	Summer 2
Year 8			
Unit 1 – The Force of Empire	1.1 An introduction: what was the British Empire?	What the British Empire was and why England, France and Spain colonised the Americas.	Autumn 1
Unit 2 – The Force of Empire	1.2 How important was the Industrial Revolution?	Why industry began in Britain, life in industrial towns and factories, poverty, coal and invention; a THRIVE local history morning; assessment.	Autumn 1 / Autumn 2
Unit 3 – The Force of Empire	1.3 African kingdoms: what made Africa, Africa?	The kingdoms of Mali and Benin: wealth, government, everyday life, artefacts and decline; assessment.	Autumn 2
Unit 4 – The Force of Empire	1.4 What are the legacies of transatlantic slavery?	The slave trade, the Middle Passage, auctions and plantation life; resistance, abolition and the abolitionists; debating how we commemorate slave traders; assessment.	Spring 1
Unit 5 – The Force of Empire	1.5 India: was the British Empire a force for good?	British expansion into India, the Indian Rebellion of 1857, life under the Raj and the road to independence.	Spring 2
Unit 6 – The Force of Empire	1.6 To what extent was Native American life destroyed?	The Plains Indians and their way of life, the Gold Rush, Sand Creek and the Battle of Little Bighorn; end-of-year assessment.	Summer 1

Unit	Topic	What students learn	Term
Unit 7 – The Force of Empire	1.7 How significant were the Suffragettes in gaining the vote for women?	Women's rights before 1900, Suffragettes and Suffragists, direct action, Emily Davison, the impact of the First World War and the Representation of the People Act.	Summer 2
Year 9			
Unit 1 – 20th Century History	1.1 Why did the Russian people overthrow the Tsarist regime?	Tsarist rule and Rasputin, the February and October Revolutions, Lenin in power and the power struggle after his death; assessment.	Autumn 1 / Autumn 2
Unit 2 – 20th Century History	1.2 What was it really like to fight in the First World War?	The causes of the war, recruitment, Ypres, the Somme and Passchendaele, weapons, and the experiences shown in photographs; interpretation assessment.	Autumn 2 / Spring 1
Unit 3 – 20th Century History	1.3 How did Hitler control Germany?	The Treaty of Versailles and the Weimar Republic, Hitler's rise to power and the creation of a totalitarian state; extended writing.	Spring 2
Unit 4 – 20th Century History	1.4 How can we explain the Holocaust?	Jewish life in Europe before the war, antisemitism, perpetrators, bystanders and rescuers, Britain's response, and how the Holocaust ended.	Spring 2
Unit 5 – 20th Century History	1.5 How could the world allow another world war?	The causes of the Second World War, Dunkirk, the Battle of Britain and the Blitz, Operation Barbarossa, Pearl Harbor, the Home Front, D-Day, Yalta and the atomic bomb; end-of-year assessment.	Summer 1 / Summer 2