Edition 3
October
2026

HISTORY
Curriculum Newsletter
YEAR 10

Contact

Simone Hamilton
WPT History
Subject Director
shamilton@
wickersley.net

Curriculum Intent

"How we got to now" is the overriding aim of the History secondary curriculum at Wickersley Partnership Trust (WPT). Through a shared understanding and knowledge of our past history, we aim to give our students the ability to understand who they are and their place in the world. We aim to inspire a love of learning and the ability to ask questions.

Our History curriculum allows our students to ask and develop perceptive questions to help them understand the past and the present. In an ever-changing world, History allows our students to look to past examples, learn from them and ensure that as citizens we do not make the same mistakes that those before us may have done.

The History curriculum aims to give students a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world. It inspires students' curiosity to know more about the past.

Teaching equips students to ask enquiring questions, think critically, weigh evidence, sift arguments, and develop perspective and judgement.

History helps students to understand the complexity of people's lives, the process of change, the diversity of societies and relationships between different groups, as well as their own identity and the challenges of their time.

Year 10 Curriculum

History is delivered via two 80 minute lessons per week. In Year 10, we look at the following topics, click on them to find out more!

Crime and Punishment

Students will study this theme over 1000 years, looking at the changes over time to law and order and punishment. They will develop an understanding of the fight for authority between the monarchs and the church and the development of laws linked to the changes of society (particular turning points include the Industrial revolution) right up to present policing and laws today.

Whitechapel

This is the environmental section of the course focusing on the London district of Whitechapel as a case study for crime and new policing tactics.

Early Elizabethan England

Students will find out about a thirty year period of Elizabeth I reign. They will find out about her problems when she became queen - including religion and Mary Queen of Scots. Also they will learn about Anglo-Spanish relations upto the Spanish Armada. Finishing with the expansion of exploration under Elizabeth I.

Superpower Relations & The Cold War

Students will be taken through the Cold War from the end of WWII upto 1991. They will study how the Iron curtain developed, how the superpowers raced to become the ultimate power, looking at the Berlin Airlift and blockade, the Berlin Wall, challenges to the Soviet Union from Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Afghanistan. They will find out about Detente and the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Weimer & Nazi Germany

Students will understand how Germany went from a monarchy to a republic after WWI and how that republic was challenged and finally fell when Hitler became leader. They will then study how Hitler established his dictatorship and then how he controlled all aspects of German life up to 1939.

Assessment Points

In Year 10, students are assessed each half term in class, using exam techniques for essay writing and source analysis. Year 10 Mock Exams take place during the Spring and consist of exam style questions from teh units they have been studying throughout Y10.

Immerse Yourself

Seneca - GCSE History Revision

- Develop Knowledge
- Educational Videos
- History Revision at home

BBC Bitesize GCSE History

- Get Revising Quicker!
- Videos, Links and Quizzes
- Study Support and Revision

BBC Bitesize helps to support the students revision outside of school.

If they are struggling with topics in lessons or want to enhance their learning in the classroom then these links are an ideal place to cover content at home.

Test Your Knowledge with Quizlet...

Quizlet's Y10 History flashcards are a fantastic way to memorise relevant History terms to help you with your studies. Click on the icon below to start!

Praise and Reward

Our rewards system can be broadly split into four categories: classroom level, subject level, school level and privilege rewards. We'll focus on classroom and subject rewards here - for more information about our rewards schemes, please see our website.

CLASSROOM LEVEL REWARDS

Awarded for: working hard, taking risks and rising to a challenge, making mistakes and learning from them, helping others, and taking pride in the school community.

Rewarded by: praise postcards, positive phone calls to parents/carers, positive text messages home, and lesson-based prizes.

SUBJECT LEVEL REWARDS

Reward scheme: Star of the Week, curriculum awards (Subject/School Way, participation, working with pride, embracing the whole curriculum), high flyer, extra mile, most improved.

Rewarded by: names displayed on reward boards, certificates, social media posts.

Broadening Horizons

For our study of History to have real meaning, we endeavour to give students an experience of the subject that goes beyond the classroom.

Where possible students are offered opportunities to enrich their learning through first hand experiences, whether this be a visit to places such as France, Belgium or Auschwitz, an experience or the ability to hear a first-hand witness testimony to allow them to see that History is real, is all around us and has a direct impact on how we live our lives today.

Allowing our students to see that History is a subject which opens up doors to many career opportunities is also an integral part of our students' preparation for life beyond school.

BBC TEACH

Who Was Elizabeth I? - BBC Teach

Hunting for History - BBC Teach's investigation into the personality of Elizabeth I by examining a source held at The National Archives at Kew. Click on the logo to find out more!

Weston Park History Museum - Work Experience

Sheffield Museums Trust run six of Sheffield's museums and galleries. The collections we care for and the exhibitions and displays we create span social and industrial history, archaeology, natural science and decorative and visual art.

In October we are offering a Work Experience Taster Day for young people aged 14-18.

SHEFFIELD MUSEUMS

Careers

We run a series of 'Careers in the Curriculum' weeks in our school. For History, this week takes place in October.

History gives students the skills they need to enter most professions and go on to further and higher education. They have the skills to evidence their points, create well supported arguments and analysis of evidence. These skills help with careers in Law, Policing, the Armed Forces, Civil Service etc.

Click on the logo below for more information on one of the careers discussed!

The History Way

The History Way is followed in all of our lessons. It is designed to help students become young subject specialists and has two main purposes: to teach students the vital skills needed to achieve their full potential, and to demonstrate how History relates to the wider world.

Have your say!

At WPT we're always looking for feedback. If you have any thoughts/opinions on this Curriculum Newsletter, its content or the curriculum in general, please click on the title to fill out a short feedback form.