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HISTORY
YEAR 7 Curriculum Newsletter

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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 7 Curriculum

History is delivered via one 80 minute lesson per week. Click on the topics below for more information!

Anglo-Saxons & Vikings

What was life in Britain like pre 1066? Who were the Anglo-Saxons and why did the Vikings invade? What was the significance of Alfred the Great for the creation of England? Who held all of the power in the run-up to 1066?

The Norman Conquests

Why was Britain invaded in 1066 and what changes were made by the Normans after the Battle of Hastings? What were the long term consequences of the invasion on our lifestyle and landmarks?

The Middle Ages

What was life like in the Middle Ages in England? What were the longer term consequences of the Norman conquest on religion, the power of the King and law and order? We also look at Forest Laws and Robin Hood.

The Tudors

What were the significant changes made to religion by the Tudor Dynasty? How did the changes originally made by Henry VIII impact on religious issues of the time and ever since? We look at case studies of Henry VIII's children - Edward, Mary and Elizabeth (and the Spanish Armada) and then on into the Stuart period with events such as the Gunpowder plot.

The Stuarts & the Civil War

What were the key events of the Stuart period and what was the legacy of the Tudors? We'll look at the new laws for crimes against religion and authority at a time when the government, King and law makers felt threatened by rebellion and revolt. We focus on The Gunpowder Plot as a case study of treason. We'll look at Witchcraft and the effects of heresy. Finally, we examine the Civil War, how it altered the course of history and turned the country upside down with the execution of the King.

Assessment Points

In Year 7, students are assessed each half term in class using essays, skills practice and source analysis. There is also one summative test in Year 7, which usually takes place in June.

Immerse Yourself

Pathe UK - The Lost King

- Develop Skills
- Educational Video
- History Revision at home

BBC Bitesize 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 Y7 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, 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.

Very Vicious Vikings - Horrible Histories

Horrible Histories is a hit CBBC show that explores the side of history that they don't teach you about in school! From the Rotten Romans, Vicious Vikings and Awful Egyptians to the Slimy Stuarts and Terrible Tudors, Horrible Histories covers the funniest, yuckiest and most gruesome bits of history for kids. Click the logo to watch!

Jorvik Viking Centre - York

Travel back to the year AD 975 at JORVIK Viking Centre! A world-famous 'must-see' visitor attraction in the heart of York city centre. Over the last 40 years they have welcomed over 20 million visitors, all curious to learn about the Vikings. Click the logo for more information!

Careers

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

Students take part in a number of activities to encourage them to think about how what they learn in the classroom can be applied in a number of future careers, including academic research, archivist, English Heritage/National Trust, museum curator, archaeologist and teacher. Click on the logo below for more information!

BBC

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.