This course challenges students to analyse key events and characters in the past, to isolate important issues, defend points of view, construct arguments and reach well founded conclusions. By understanding the past, people can make more sense of the world around them and develop well-informed insights into what the future may hold.

History is a wide-ranging and broad-based subject that can lead to a variety of careers, such as law, commerce, education, the media, the civil service, etc. It also develops and refines many of the techniques needed in the workplace in an age dominated by information handling.

A Level Modules

Component 1: Breadth Study – Lower Sixth Year Tudor England, 1485–1547/A2 Tudor England, 1485–1603 (2½ hours examination = 40% A Level marks)
Component 2: Depth Study – Lower Sixth Year Democracy and Nazism 1918–1933/A2 Democracy and Nazism 1918–1933 (2½ hours examination = 40% A Level marks)
Component 3: Historical Investigation Stuart Britain 1603-1694 (Coursework = 20% A Level marks)

Lower Sixth Year

Component 1: Breadth Study Consolidation of the Tudor Dynasty - England, 1485–1547
Henry VII’s consolidation and expansion of the powers of the monarchy; how England was governed during this period; foreign policy; the securing of the succession; economic and social changes; Henry VIII’s reform of the Church; the personalities of the two kings.

Component 2: Depth Study The Weimar Republic and the rise of Nazism 1918–1933
The impact of war and the political crises at the end of 1918; the establishment of the Weimar Republic; reactions to the Versailles Treaty; reparations, hyperinflation and the invasion of the Ruhr; the Munich Putsch; Stresemann’s economic policies and diplomacy; the impact of the Great Depression; the appeal of the Nazis and Communists; Hitler’s becoming chancellor in 1933.

Upper Sixth Year

Component 1: Breadth Study England: Turmoil and Triumph, 1547–1603
A study of the period between the “Mid-Tudor Crisis” and the death of Elizabeth I. This will cover the impact of the religious policies of Edward VI and Mary and the problems faced by Elizabeth in seeking to consolidate her power. Students will examine the threats posed by the various rebellions, Mary, Queen of Scots and the Spanish Armada and the extent to which political and religious unity had been achieved by 1603.

Component 2: Depth Study Nazi Germany, 1933–1945
Hitler’s consolidation of power; the 'Terror State': social policies - youth, women, workers; the churches; Economic policies – recovery and preparation for war; Nazi racial ideology; anti-Semitism: the impact of War, 1939–1945; Speer and the wartime economy; the 'Final Solution'; the July Bomb Plot; the end of Hitler’s reich.

Component 3: Historical Investigation Stuart Britain 1603-1714
An analysis of the period 1603-1714 in England. A look at how relations between crown and parliament changed over the Seventeenth Century. This will cover James I; the Civil War; Charles I’s execution; Cromwell and the interregnum; the Restoration and the Glorious Revolution.

GCSE requirements:
History – grade 5 (if taken); English Language – grade 4; in total, at least grade 5 in two literate subjects.