





Year 7 History—your learning journey

Year 7 History introduces you to the key skills used in History. We then build your knowledge of why Britain is the way it is. We look at how different groups of people have come to live in Britain from the earliest settlers to the present day. Then we explore British history in detail from 1066 to 1603. This includes studying the Medieval period, including castles, kings and queens and the Black Death and then we study the Tudor period including the English Reformation, the Tudor monarchs and the Spanish Armanda.

Unit	Why do we study this and why now?	What core learning questions will our studies answer?
Q Historical Skills	To develop core historical skills to help us study history at Brockington College. You will use some of these skills throughout your life	What are sources and how do we use them? What are historical lenses? How do we measure time? What is inference and why is it useful to learn it?
Migration	So that we understand that Every single person living in Britain today is descended from immigrants . From the first settlers about 25,000 years ago, people have come here, settled and mixed with each other. Throughout our history, moving here has changed the people who came and they have changed Britain. The story of migration is the story of our nation seen through the lives of all of us. Studying the history of migration will help you think about today's debates about migration in context, with evidence, so that you can make informed judgements that learn from history. It will also link to the work you have done prior to Year 7 as well as future learning.	 Who were the first groups that settled in the British Isles and why? What was life like for these early settlers? What were the different factors involved in why different groups of people came to Britain? What impact did these different groups have on Britain? What is the lasting legacy of the different groups that have settled in Britain? How far has society accepted different groups of migrants? Why is immigration such a controversial political topic in modern Britain?
The Normans and Medieval Life	The study of the Normans and Medieval life provides a solid building block on learning at KS1 and KS2 and provides strong links to learning at KS4. It links closely to the work you have done on migration and covers many key substantive historical concepts, such as the nature of power, monarchy and religion. These can be explored in this time period along with key historical events that are part of a shared British cultural heritage, such as the Battle of Hastings and the Black Death. The development of castles is also pretty cool too!	 Why is the Norman conquest such a significant period in British history? How important was religion to medieval people? What were the real causes of the Black Death and were the consequences all bad? How did the Crusades effect Europe and the Holy Land? What was life like for ordinary people in the Medieval period? What sources can we use to learn about Medieval Britain?
	The Tudor period contains many significant events that have shaped modern Britain and it fits in chronologically with the work you have done so far in Year 7. The very school that	How and why did Britain break away from the Catholic Church and why was this so significant for Britain? How did the Tudors influence Britain's relationship with



The Tudors

work you have done so fail in Year 7. The very school that you are in today only exists because of the English Reformation. The Tudor era saw unprecedented upheaval in England. Between them the five Tudor kings and queens introduced huge changes that are still with us today. The years between the crowning of Henry VII in 1485 and the death of Elizabeth I in 1603 saw the old religious order swept away, the establishment of the American colonies, the foundation of the Royal Navy and the power of Europe challenged. Studying the Tudors will also introduce you to several key substantive concepts in history that will help you on your learning journey through history at Brockington. In addition if you intend to study GCSE history it will give you a solid foundation for our Early Elizabethan module.

How did the Tudors influence Britain's relationship with Europe and the wider world?
How diverse was Tudor England?
Why did Elizabeth face so many challenges and how did she overcome them?
Why was the Spanish Armada such a significant event in the history of Britain?
What was the lasting legacy of changes in Elizabethan society ?
Why is the Elizabethan period known as the 'Age of

Exploration'?



Year 8 History—your learning journey

Year 8 History builds on your studies at Year 7 and it is a key link year with our studies in Year 9. It gives you the opportunity to develop new historical skills and hone existing skills. Key substantive concepts such as revolution, monarchy, democracy, civil war and government are explored in detail through the study of key events of the Stuart time period such as the Gunpowder Plot, The English Civil Wars, the Commonwealth and Restoration period. Year 8 also introduces you to the British Empire and the Transatlantic Slave Trade, which have both have had a profound impact on Modern Britain. The final topic is the Industrial Revolution, which has had the most impact on how we live our lives today. Out of this time period modern democracy grew and led to equal voting rights in the 20th century.

Unit	Why do we study this and why now?	What core learning questions will our studies answer?
The Stuarts and the English Civil War	This unit of study links closely to the work studied at the end of Year 7, so it helps build on prior learning along with introducing new concepts such as Civil War. It covers some of the biggest political, social and economic events in British history, such as the English Civil Wars as well as important cultural links such as the Gunpowder Plot.	Why do we celebrate bonfire night? Why did the relationship between king and parliament break down so badly in the 1600s? To what extent did the nature of power change in the Stuart period? Why was the king of England and Scotland executed? Why do historians argue about England under Cromwell?
Slavery and Abolition	The transatlantic slave trade was the largest forced migration in history. Between 1500 and 1800, around 12-15 million people were taken by force from Africa to be used as enslaved labour in the Caribbean, North, Central and South America. As a result of the transatlantic slave trade, millions of people of African descent live across the world. This is known as the African Diaspora. Britain had a key role in this trade and we are living with the consequences of it today. This unit links to both the British Empire and Industrial Revolution units and these stories must be told together to understand the big picture.	What part did Britain play in the transatlantic slave trade? What were 16th –century West African kingdoms like? What was the trade triangle and the Middle Passage? What was life like under slavery? Why was the slave trade abolished? What is the legacy of slavery?
The British Empire	Birmingham held the Commonwealth games in July 2022 and Leicester is one of the most diverse cities in Britain. To understand how these are connected to Britain's past we need to learn about the biggest Empire that the world has ever known. The British Empire began in Tudor times and expanded over the next 400 years to include a quarter of the world's population in every part of the world. The Empire affected the course of British, European and world history and is the main reason that Britain is a multicultural society today.	How and why did the British Empire develop? Where and why did the British Empire expand during the 18th century? Who benefitted from the British Empire? What was the impact of British rule in India? How did resistance to the empire spread? What is the legacy of the British Empire?
	To understand why our modern world is the way it is we need to learn how we got here. The Industrial Revolution is one of the most important periods that made Britain the way it is, from where we live, the way we work, and why we go to school. In	What was the Industrial Revolution? How did the Agricultural Revolution link to the Industrial Revolution? Why was there a growth in trade and industry?



The Industrial Revolution

the way we work, and why we go to school. In addition The Industrial Revolution brought advances in technology, shipping, science, agriculture and construction. As Britain became a major technologically-advanced centre of production and trade, the economy grew in strength, and Britain became a wealthier country as a result.

How did the Transport Revolution change Britain?
What was life like for different groups of people during this period?
Why were living conditions so bad in 19th century towns?
How does the Industrial Revolution affect us today?
How democratic was Britain in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth centuries?
What was life like for Victorian women?
Why does democracy matter?

How did women get the vote?

How much more democratic was Britain by 1930?



Votes for Women

The Votes for Women module looks into the wider topic of the growth of modern democracy in Britain. The course then focuses on why women were excluded from voting and what they did to gain equal rights to the vote. If you want to know why you have a say in how you live your life, how the country is run and why it matters to protect your rights, then this course provides some answers.

Year 9 History—your learning journey

Year 9 History introduces a range of sophisticated links between the History that you have studied so far at KS3 and the core components of the GCSE and A-Level courses in History. By the end of the KS3 course you will understand not only why modern Britain is the way it is and where it fits into the wider world but also understand how British history links with the major social, political and economic issues around the world today, including the war in the Ukraine and the BLM movement. We focus on Twentieth Century History during Year 9.

Unit	Why do we study this?	What core learning questions will our studies answer?
The First World War	The First World War is a significant event in world history, as its name suggests. The period 1914-1918, has left a lasting legacy that is still relevant today. The war led to a surge in new ideas and technology and affected almost every family in Britain and many millions more around the world. British Empire forces played an important part in the war and the role of women was critical too. We study the key aspects of the war, including the causes, course and consequences. The course also lays a solid foundation for GCSE which includes an historical environment study of the trenches as part of the Medicine through time course.	Why did Europe go to war in 1914? Why did WW1 develop into trench warfare? What was the Home Front and why were women important in winning the war? How and Why did the war develop into a World War? What was the Russian Revolution and why is it significant? What is the lasting legacy of the First World War? How did the First World War contribute to starting the Second World War?
International Relations and Nazi Germany	The period 1918– 1939 sees democracy under threat across Europe as authoritarian regimes spring up across the continent as a result of a wave of nationalist 'popularism'. This time period has strong links to the present day and give a vital insight into what happens when the 'rule of law' breaks down and fear reigns. This course provides an excellent foundation to GCSE Weimar and Nazi Germany, but also put some of the current events of the world into context.	How did new political ideas cause conflict? What is communism, fascism, democracy and what is capitalism? What was the League of Nations and what is the United Nations? Why did the rise of Hitler help lead to World War Two? What was life like under fascism?
The Second World War and the Holocaust	We study the Second World War and the Holocaust because like the First World War, we are living with the consequences of them today and it is a big part of our shared British cultural history. We live in the 'nuclear age' after the first atom bombs were dropped in WW2 and we enjoy the benefits of fast international travel due to the invention of the jet engine, created in Leicestershire. WW2, like WW1, affected every British family and the modern world is the way it is today because of the events and outcomes of the war. The holocaust is a separate but closely linked course that traces the history of antisemitism through time up to and including WW2.	What were the causes of the Second World War? What were the main events of the Second World War and why did they matter? Why are Dunkirk, The Battle of Britain and the Blitz such an important element of our shared cultural history? How did the war develop into a global conflict? What role did the British Empire play in winning the war? What were the consequences of the Second World War? How far did the role of women change between WW1 and WW2?
£7.3	We study the Cold War as it provides strong links to the WW2 course as well as providing a good foundation for the Cold War course at GCSE. Some of the key events in the world today are linked to the Cold War, such as the	What factors affect international relations? What is a superpower? What are hard and soft power, and spheres of influence?



Cold War Conflicts

war in Ukraine and tensions between North and South Korea. Many space programmes started at the height of the Cold War and led to technologies we use today. One of the biggest events of the Cold War also became one of the closest moments in history to World War Three. The course sits well chronologically with the course before and links to the Civil Rights course. Why were the Korean and Vietnam Wars important? How close did the world come to destruction over Cuba?

Should the 20th Century be known as the century of war?

What are the causes, impacts and solutions of war?



Civil Rights in the USA

The Civil Rights course includes topic matter suitable for Year 9 and helps explain some of the current issues in 21st century America. Some of the key moments in the movement are explored sensitively using primary sources from people who lived through the period. The course is useful for demonstrating how change can be brought about through peaceful protest and relates to several of the core values of the school.

How can people bring about change through peaceful protest? Why was the Montgomery Bus Boycott a significant event in bringing about change?

How important were the Civil Rights Acts?