

Curriculum Statement for History

Curriculum aims

At Vanguard School, the History curriculum is designed with a clear purpose to ensure that:

- pupils make progress through building their knowledge of the past, and of how historians study the past and construct accounts.
- pupils' progress is secured by embedding frameworks of content and concepts that enable them to access future material.
- pupils retain abstract concepts through meaningful examples and repeated encounters in different contexts.
- we deliver a well-sequenced, inclusive, and knowledge-rich curriculum that enables all students to take ambitious next steps in their education and beyond.
- all our pupils, no matter their previous social and academic experience, leave school as confident, articulate, well-qualified and responsible young adults.
- our learners value learning for its own sake and become resilient, independent thinkers.

How we teach History

Our approach to teaching History is through:

- reflecting on the relationship between 'substantive' and 'disciplinary' knowledge
- developing pupils' historical knowledge and their historical analysis simultaneously
- giving pupils specific opportunities to develop their knowledge of some particularly important substantive concepts
- providing pupils with opportunities to read or hear appropriately challenging texts
- ensuring that teaching and curriculum design secure pupils' chronological knowledge
- giving pupils opportunities to study aspects of the past in overview and in depth
- teaching that helps pupils to develop coherent historical narratives and organising frameworks for their knowledge of the past
- supporting pupils to learn new content through meaningful examples and historical context that makes ideas and concepts more familiar
- making sure pupils have repeated encounters with a wide range of important concepts in a number of different contexts
- providing rich stories and contextual details about the past to make abstract ideas more meaningful

Specific resources and schemes

At Vanguard school we support the teaching of History with the use of:

- primary and secondary sources
- visits to places of historical significance

Qualifications

By the end of Year 13, when our pupils leave Vanguard School , they will have been supported to engage in and achieve recognised qualifications. This will include some qualifications in key stage 4 and some in key stage 5. We offer a range of qualifications that are tailored to meet the needs of the individual pupil to ensure progress from starting point. All qualification offers are discussed with parents and carers. Current qualifications for this subject include:

AQA (Assessment and Qualification Alliance)

OCR (Oxford, Cambridge and RSA)