

## Humanities

### History

#### Curriculum

At St Andrew's, History is taught three hours a fortnight at Key Stage 3. We aim to provide a diverse curriculum that takes into account local, national and international perspectives. From the Roman conquest of Britain via the Norman invasion in the 11th century to the end of the Second World War, we provide both breadth and depth in our teaching. Through a diverse range of topics, students begin to develop the following skills: chronological understanding; enquiry skills; ability to evaluate historians' interpretations of the past; understanding of the causes, consequences and historical significance of events.

We follow the AQA syllabus for GCSE. The course offers students the opportunity to study different aspects of the past, so they can engage with key issues such as conflict, understand what drives change and how the past influences the present. Students study four major topics that cover 1000 years of British and world History.

These are:

- The Cold War 1945 – 75. Students will examine the causes of the conflict and examine how the world became divided by studying the nuclear arms race and major events including the Korean War, the division of Germany and the Cuban Missile Crisis
- Germany 1918 – 45. This period study focuses on the development of Germany during a turbulent half century of change. It was a period of democracy and dictatorship - the development and collapse of democracy and the rise and fall of Nazism.
- Britain. Migration, Empires and the People: c790 to the present day. We will study Britain as a conquered nation and as an Empire-builder. The course will also consider the important question of immigration and what it means to be British today.
- Norman England 1066 to c.1100. Students will study in depth the arrival of the Normans and the establishment of their rule in England.

Throughout both years of the course you will also learn a wide variety of skills. These will include reading and analysing evidence critically, how to communicate your knowledge clearly and how to form arguments both verbally and in your extended writing.

The course is assessed at the end of year 11 by two exam papers

## **Sociology**

Sociology would be an ideal choice for you if you are interested in how and why society works in the way it does, where we get our ideas of normal and strange from and above all you have an inquisitive mind and the ability to see the world from a different perspective.

### **What will I study?**

In year 10 we begin by identifying what makes Sociology a distinct subject and what it means to have a Sociological mind through our first unit; the Sociological approach. This will give you a strong foundation in the subject which we will develop in the second unit; Sociological research methods. Be prepared to have your beliefs, opinions and preconceptions challenged as we delve deeper into the subject. Our final topic in year 10 will be the contentious and controversial study of families; do we need them? Who holds power in the home? After we complete this topic, you will be tasked with carrying out your own Sociological research project.

Building on your expertise in year 11 we begin the year by reflecting on your lives so far as we study the Sociology of education. We will question whether we need to educate people and if so if we're going about it the right way. Are GCSEs too easy? Do schools simply teach you to pass exams? These are just some of the questions we'll be studying. We then move into the exciting and sometimes uncomfortable topic of Crime and Deviance in which we consider the reasons why people commit crimes, how we deal with them and how our society functions in the face of crime. Our final topic is the real essence of Sociology; Social stratification in which we will learn how society is structured and if people truly are a product of their surroundings or if any man can change his life through hard work.

### **How will I be taught?**

Lessons tend to involve a strong element of discussion, as it is important for us to formulate ideas and challenge views in order to develop our Sociological minds. You will need to be confident working in teams but will also have to thrive as an individual, if you are willing to work hard then the study of Sociology is definitely for you. We also use videos, research tasks and even create our own projects which will require you to think critically and be prepared to do something totally different.

### **How will I be assessed?**

Every topic will include a minimum of two assessments – one interim and one final assessment both of which take place under exam conditions and will be marked accordingly.

The final exams both take part in year 11 and are worth 50% of your grade each respectively.

### **What should I do if I'm interested?**

Before you apply please consider speaking to Mr Trelawny in room 9 who can talk you through the subject and advise you.