

History Key Stage 4 Curriculum



Curriculum Intent

History inspires young people to ask questions of the world around them and challenge the here and now. At Trinity St. Edward's we challenge students to think, act and speak like those working in the field: to research thoroughly, **to critically evaluate evidence**, to understand chronology, to evaluate the various interpretations offered to us by historians, and develop coherent and logical arguments. We aim to ensure students develop the range of skills needed to become confident in their own opinions, make well supported judgements, and to be able to express their ideas and judgements articulately using keywords from topics as well as academic and historical vocabulary. The range of history taught offers the opportunity **to explore different peoples' perspectives on issues and events** and to think critically about the world in which they live. Our curriculum is carefully sequenced to give students a broad understanding of **the chronological development** of British history, as well as being able to **make links to other societies, cultures, and world events**. Underpinning the knowledge-rich curriculum are key second order concepts such as cause, consequence, significance, and diversity. These skills allow students to ask inquiring questions, analyse information and convey their views in a methodical and structured way.

Overview

Year 10

Thematic Study (Pt 2) Britain: Health and the people c1000 to the present day

This paper helps students understand the history of Britain and key events, people and developments which have shaped the nation. This paper covers the requirement to study a minimum of 40% British history. Students will have the opportunity to see how ideas and events in the wider world have affected Britain and shaped the course of the nation's history, but the focus of the paper is British. Students will analyse the development of the understanding of disease, treatment and government interventions.

British Depth Study including the Historic Environment: Elizabethan England c1568-1603

The depth studies focus on the reign of Elizabeth I in the Early Modern era. Students will build a coherent understanding of the complexity of society and the interplay of different aspects within it.

The historic environment is embedded within the depth studies. This approach promotes coherent understanding of the relationship between the historic environment and the historical events and developments contained in the depth study. Students will be able to make connections and evaluate how specified sites have shaped or have been shaped by the historical events and developments of the time. For the 2026 examination the chosen site is The Globe Theatre.

Period Study: America 1920-1973 Opportunity and inequality

The period studies are national in their focus, allowing students to study the domestic history of a country and its people in a period of change. It is based on an unfolding narrative of two substantial and related developments and offer students the opportunity to study the impact these developments had on people. Students will gain a coherent understanding of these developments and their impact on people through a variety of perspectives: political, social and cultural, economic, the role of ideas and the contribution of individuals and groups. This includes key events such as Prohibition, The Civil Rights movement and feminist movements in the USA.

Year 11

Thematic Study (Pt 2) Britain: Health and the people c1000 to the present day

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Revision of:

- Period Study: America 1920-1973 Opportunity and inequality
- Wider World Depth Study: Conflict and tension in Asia 1950-1975
- Thematic Study (Pt 2) Britain: Health and the people c1000 to the present day
- British Depth Study including the Historic Environment: Elizabethan England c1568-1603

Content

Year 10

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
Thematic Study (Pt 2) Britain: Health and the people c1000 to the present day		British Depth Study including the Historic Environment: Elizabethan England c1568-1603			Period Study: America 1920-1973 Opportunity and inequality
<p>Part one: Medicine stands still Medieval medicine: approaches including natural, supernatural, ideas of Hippocratic and Galenic methods and treatments; the medieval doctor; training, beliefs about cause of illness. Medical progress: the contribution of Christianity to medical progress and treatment; hospitals; the nature and importance of Islamic medicine and surgery; surgery in medieval times, ideas and techniques. Public health in the Middle Ages.</p> <p>Part two: The beginnings of change The impact of the Renaissance on Britain: challenge to medical authority in anatomy, physiology and surgery; the work of Vesalius, Paré, William Harvey; opposition to change. Prevention of disease: inoculation; Edward Jenner, vaccination and opposition to change.</p> <p>Part three: A revolution in medicine The development of Germ Theory and its impact on the treatment of disease in Britain: the importance of Pasteur, Robert Koch and microbe hunting; Pasteur and vaccination; Paul Ehrlich and magic bullets; everyday medical treatments and remedies. A revolution in surgery.</p>		<p>Part one: Elizabeth's court and Parliament Students will study Elizabeth I and her court: background and character of Elizabeth I; court life, including patronage; key ministers. The difficulties of a female ruler: relations with Parliament; the problem of marriage and the succession; the strength of Elizabeth's authority at the end of her reign, including Essex's rebellion in 1601.</p> <p>Part two: Life in Elizabethan times A 'Golden Age': living standards and fashions; growing prosperity and the rise of the gentry; the Elizabethan theatre and its achievements; attitudes to the theatre. The poor: reasons for the increase in poverty; attitudes and responses to poverty; the reasons for government action and the seriousness of the problem. English sailors: Hawkins and Drake; circumnavigation 1577–1580, voyages and trade; the role of Raleigh.</p> <p>Part three: Troubles at home and abroad Religious matters: the question of religion, English Catholicism and Protestantism; the Northern Rebellion; Elizabeth's excommunication; the missionaries; Catholic plots and the threat to the Elizabethan settlement; the nature and ideas of the Puritans and Puritanism; Elizabeth and her government's responses and policies towards religious matters.</p>			<p>Part one: American people and the 'Boom' The 'Boom': benefits, advertising and the consumer society; hire purchase; mass production, including Ford and the motor industry; inequalities of wealth; Republican government policies; stock market boom. Social and cultural developments: entertainment, including cinema and jazz; the position of women in society, including flappers. Divided society: organised crime, prohibition and their impact on society; the causes of racial tension, the experiences of immigrants and the impact of immigration; the Ku Klux Klan; the Red Scare and the significance of the Sacco and Vanzetti case.</p> <p>Part two: Bust – Americans' experiences of the Depression and New Deal American society during the Depression: unemployment;</p>

<p>Improvements in public health: public health problems in industrial Britain; cholera epidemics; the role of public health reformers; local and national government involvement in public health improvement.</p> <p>Part four: Modern medicine Modern treatment of disease (penicillin). The impact of war and technology on surgery: plastic surgery; blood transfusions; X-rays; transplant surgery; modern surgical methods, including lasers, radiation therapy and keyhole surgery. Modern public health, the creation and development of the National Health Service; costs, choices and the issues of healthcare in the 21st century.</p>	<p>Mary Queen of Scots: background; Elizabeth and Parliament's treatment of Mary; the challenge posed by Mary; plots; execution and its impact. Conflict with Spain: reasons; events; naval warfare, including tactics and technology; the defeat of the Spanish Armada.</p> <p>Part four: The historic environment of Elizabethan England The historic environment is 10% of the overall course, which equates to approximately 12 hours out of 120 guided learning hours. Students will be examined on a specific site in depth. The site for 2026 is The Globe Theatre.</p>	<p>farmers; businessmen; Hoover's responses and unpopularity; Roosevelt's election as president. The effectiveness of the New Deal on different groups in society: successes and limitations including opposition towards the New Deal from Supreme Court, Republicans and Radical politicians; Roosevelt's contribution as president; popular culture. The impact of the Second World War: America's economic recovery; Lend Lease; exports; social developments, including experiences of African-Americans and women.</p>
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