South Nottinghamshire Academy

History

Why History?

History offers a fascinating opportunity to explore the events, people, and ideas that have shaped the modern world. From revolutions and empires to political ideologies and social change, the course encourages critical thinking about the past and its relevance today. You'll develop a wide range of transferable skills including research, analysis, argument construction, and source evaluation—skills highly valued by universities and employers alike. History is a respected subject by Russell Group universities and complements a wide variety of other A-Level subjects.

What can I expect?

You will study a range of historical periods and themes, both British and international. Topics taught are the Early Tudors, French Revolution and Civil Rights in the USA. You'll explore how historians interpret the past, evaluate primary and secondary sources, and construct well-supported arguments. A key component of the course is the Historical Investigation (NEA)—an independent research project on a topic of your choice, allowing you to explore an area of personal interest in depth.

In class this is supported by various summative and formative examinations, drawing on past paper material and teacher expertise. Data is tracked to ensure all students make progress across all strands of A level geography, with marking and feedback conducted rigorously and in detail to examiner standards.

How will I be assessed?

A Level History is assessed in three exams which consist of extended essays. Across the two year programme students will be equipped to answer these questions. Teacher Level Assessment in class and homework tasks develop these skills for more formal end of unit essays. Students will sit Mock exams in both year 12 and year 13.

What do I need?

In addition to the general entry requirements for the Sixth Form, we recommend a grade 5 or higher in GCSE History. Students with a grade 4 will be considered on a case-by-case basis, especially if they demonstrate strong literacy and analytical skills.

What about the future?

History is a gateway to a wide range of careers. History graduates are highly employable due to their ability to think critically, communicate effectively, and understand complex issues.

"History teaches us not only about the past, but how to think rigorously, argue persuasively, and write clearly—skills that are essential in any profession." — *Royal Historical Society*

You'll find historians working in law, journalism, education, politics, heritage, international relations, business, and beyond.