Why choose GCSE History?

History is continuously changing the world around us and historic events have helped to shape our society.

Studying GCSE History will help you to answer important questions such as:
• Why do wars happen?
• Why do we have a welfare system?
• How have we come to live in a multi-cultural society?

Learning about past events and the people who’ve influenced history will allow you to understand how the world got to the point it’s at now and how it will continue to develop in the future.

You’ll learn valuable skills...

Apart from studying a wide range of exciting historic periods, you’ll learn a range of handy skills that will help you with A-levels and future work. These include:
• excellent communication and writing skills
• how to construct an argument
• research and problem skills
• investigation and problem-solving skills
• analytical and interpretation skills.

... and useful facts

• Ever wondered why people wear poppies in November?
• Did you know that until 1928 not all women could vote?

Look ahead at possible future careers

Studying history can lead on to some exciting career options, including:
• Journalism
• Law
• Business
• Politics
• Archaeology
• Marketing
• Teaching.

Find out more
aqa.org.uk/history
What topics will you study?

**AQA GCSE History**

You’ll study four elements, split over two exams:
- one period study
- one thematic study
- one wider world depth study
- one British depth study including the historic environment.

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<tr>
<th>Assessment 1: Understanding the modern world</th>
<th>Assessment 2: Shaping the nation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section A: Period studies.</strong> Choose one from these four options:</td>
<td><strong>Section A: Thematic studies</strong> Choose one topic from these three options:</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 1A America, 1840–1895: Expansion and consolidation</td>
<td>• 2A Britain: health and the people, c1000–present</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 1B Germany, 1890–1945: Democracy and dictatorship</td>
<td>• 2B Britain: power and the people, c1170–present (New)</td>
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<td>• 1C Russia, 1894–1945: Tsardom and communism</td>
<td>• 2C Britain: migration, empires and the people, c790–present (New).</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Section B: Wider world depth studies</strong> Choose one from these five options:</th>
<th><strong>Section B: British depth studies including the historic environment</strong> Choose one topic from these four options:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Conflict and tension, 1894–1918</td>
<td>• Norman England, c1066–c1100 (New)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Conflict and tension, 1918–1939</td>
<td>• Medieval England: the reign of Edward I, 1272–1307 (New)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Conflict and tension between East and West, 1945–1972</td>
<td>• Elizabethan England, c1568–1603 (New)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Conflict and tension, 1990–2009 (New).</td>
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**Assessment**

At GCSE there are two exams – Paper 1 and 2 are each worth 50% and last for 1 hour 45 minutes each. These exams consist of short answer questions and longer, essay type questions.

**Entry requirements**

If you want to know more, please talk to your teacher.