

THE INDEPENDENT GRAMMAR SCHOOL: DURHAM

History Curriculum Overview - Middle School (Years 5-8)

Core Knowledge UK / Progression towards GCSE History
Whole School Curriculum Map

Year Group	Michaelmas 1	Michaelmas 2	Lent 1	Lent 2	Trinity 1	Trinity 2
Year 5	The Story of Ancient Egypt	Life in Ancient Egypt	The New World	Colonies in America	Mayans	Local history: industrial Durham
Year 6	The American Civil War	Life in Victorian Britain	WWI: The Great War	WWII: causes and events	WWII: homefront and evacuation	The Cold War
Year 7	The Norman Conquest of England, 1066-1088	Medieval England, c.1088-1509	The Tudors, 1485-1603	The English Civil War and Interregnum, 1625-1660	The British Empire, c.1500-1900	Historical Enquiry & Skills and Deeper Understanding
Year 8	The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain	The Norman Conquest of England, 1066-1088	Medieval England, c.1088-1485	Reformation and The Tudors, 1485-1558	Elizabeth I, 1558-1603	Stuarts, the English Civil War and Interregnum, 1603-1660

Curriculum Intent

- Build a coherent chronological understanding of Britain and the wider world
- Develop knowledge of significant people, events and changes over time
- Encourage pupils to think critically about the past
- Follow a coherent, cumulative sequence of knowledge in line with Core Knowledge UK

Document Owner: History Lead

Implementation

- History is taught through high-quality Core Knowledge UK
- Topics are taught in a coherent sequence across the year
- Lessons develop knowledge, vocabulary and understanding of chronology
- Pupils use sources, artefacts and discussion to deepen understanding
- Regular retrieval practice and assessment support long-term retention

Review Cycle: Annual

Impact

- Know more and remember more about the past
- Understand chronology and historical concepts
- Think critically and ask perceptive questions about history
- Develop a lasting curiosity about the past
- Be well-prepared for the next stage of their education

Date: _____