



THE INDEPENDENT GRAMMAR SCHOOL: DURHAM

History Curriculum Overview

Whole School Curriculum Map (Years 1–6)

Year Group	Michaelmas 1	Michaelmas 2	Lent 1	Lent 2	Trinity 1	Trinity 2
Year 1	Ice Age & Stone Age	Bronze Age & Iron Age	King & Queens Castles & Knights		Significant individuals	The Titanic
Year 2	Great Fire of London	Gunpowder Plot War & Remembrance	Romans and Saxons	Vikings and Normans	Explorers	Local heroes
Year 3	Ancient Greece	The Rise of the Roman Empire	Normans	Medieval Britain	King John Magna Carta	War of the Roses
Year 4	Ancient India	Ancient China	The Fall of the Roman Empire	Saxons and Vikings	Tudors	Stuarts and the Great Fire of London
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

Curriculum Intent

At The Independent Grammar School: Durham, our history curriculum is designed to:

- 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 (Civitas)

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 their understanding
- Regular retrieval practice and assessment support long-term retention

Impact

Pupils will:

- 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



History helps children make sense of the world, learn from the past and inspire their future.