

History

The Intentions of the History Curriculum

In history, we aim to ask the often uncomfortable, big questions which have defined us as a country and which define us now as a global community. To name a few, we ask whether people should have the right to impose their morals and cultures on others, we investigate how people have justified their often horrific actions and hypocrisies, and we explore whether Britain has actually been and is actually ruled with the consent of the people.

Many of us want history to be a neat script; all loose ends tied and with victory for the heroes. At Nova, we aim to dispel this myth and show history for what it is: messy. Narratives have unsatisfying endings, might is often right, and people's motivations are often unclear. However, through demonstrating its complexity, we also aim to show why history is fascinating and teach students the methods of inquiry which allow them to make sense of it.

The history curriculum at Nova is taught chronologically, but also aims to revisit a number of key themes over time, such as the power of the people and the difference between truth and people's perceptions of it.

The Learning Sequence in History

Academic Year	Autumn Term	SPR1 Assessments	Spring Term and Summer Term 1	SPR2 Assessments	Summer Term 2
Year 7	<p>How did the Normans conquer and control England?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • England before 1066 • The Norman Conquest • William's consolidation of power <p>How did the Normans change England?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did England's international connections change? • What changes did William I make in England? • Influence of the Normans? 	Tests on Autumn term topic	<p>What importance did religion have in the Middle Ages?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significance of the church in Medieval life • Impact of monks and nuns on society • Impact of the Crusades <p>Why did Medieval kings face so many challenges?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenges Medieval kings – what did they face? • Key events which challenged the monarchy 	Synoptic – tests all of Y7 so far	<p>Why did Medieval kings face so many challenges?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key events which challenged the monarchy • Impact of key events in shaping English society (Black Death/Peasants Revolt) <p>What caused the Reformation in Europe and England?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Causes of the Reformation • Significance of the Tudor family (and the Reformation) • Impact of the Reformation on England
Year 8	<p>Parliament from 1625</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build up to the English Civil War • The Protectorate 	Synoptic – test on Y7 and Autumn term of Y8	<p>Slavery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Europe and the slave trade • How did the slave trade work? 	Synoptic – tests all of Y7 and Y8 so far	<p>World War One</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long and short term causes of WW1 • How WW1 was fought • End of WW1 and its impact

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Restoration 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abolition of the slave trade/slavery 		
Year 9	Why did the Allies win WW2? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long and short-term causes of WW2 Significant events of WW2 End of WW2 and its impact. 	Synoptic – tests on all of KS3 so far	The Holocaust <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anti-Semitism throughout history How did persecution of the Jews increase in Nazi Germany? How much did people know? 	Synoptic – tests on all of KS3 so far	What was the Cold War? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> European relationships after WW2 Increasing tensions Significant events of the Cold War A second Cold War?
Year 10	Britain: Health and the People <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medicine in the Middle Ages Medicine in the Renaissance 	Students will sit a Britain: Health and the People paper.	Britain: Health and the People <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medicine during the Industrialisation period Medicine during the Modern era (1900s to the present day) – Norman England c1066-1100 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Norman Conquest and control 	Students will sit a Britain: Health and the People paper and a section of the Norman England paper.	Norman England c1066-1100 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Life under the Normans The Norman church and monasticism
Year 11	America: Expansion and Consolidation 1840-1895 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expansion: Opportunities and challenges Conflict across America 	First Mock Exam: Tests content in Y10 and Y11 so far This will be one Britain: Health and the People paper, one Norman England paper and a section of America 1840-1895 paper.	America: Expansion and Consolidation 1840-1895 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consolidation – how did the US bring the nation together after the American Civil War? Conflict in Asia: 1950-1975 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conflict in Korea Escalating conflict in Vietnam 	Second Mock Exam: This will be one Britain: Health and the People paper, one Norman England paper, one America 1840-1895 paper and a section of the Conflict in Asia paper.	Conflict in Asia: 1950-1975 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ending of the conflict in Vietnam Revision

Formal Assessment of the History Curriculum

History is formally assessed with written exam papers. End of year exams in KS3 are synoptic, meaning they cover the whole year and previous years as well as the more recent content. GCSE History exams are based on past exam questions.

