



OLD BUCKENHAM
HIGH SCHOOL

Be the best we can be

OBHS KS4 Subject Information

(Optional subject)

Title of Course:
GCSE History

Curriculum Leader: Miss Philippa Dawson



Course Overview

Why study History?

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GCSE History helps students make sense of the world we live in today by focusing on the key events, issues and people that have helped shape this world. By studying the past, students can better understand the present.

GCSE History equips students with transferable and employable skills, such as gathering and analysing data; evaluating and analysing sources and interpretations; formulating arguments; reaching judgements and communicating clearly.

History is relevant to a variety of careers, including Law, Journalism, TV and Radio, Politics and Local Government, the Police and the Armed Forces. Those considering a career in medicine or science may find the thematic study on medicine of particular interest.



Course Overview

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What topics will students be studying?

- Thematic unit: The history of medicine in Britain, circa 1250 to the present
- The historic environment: medicine in the trenches of World War One

- Period study: Superpower Relations and the Cold War, 1941-1991
- British depth study: Early Elizabethan England, 1558-1588

- Modern depth study: Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-1939



Course Overview

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Examination and Assessment: Examination Board: Edexcel

GCSE History is externally assessed in three exams at the end of Year 11

| Exam Paper | Topics Examined | Percentage of GCSE | Length of Exam |
|---|--|--------------------|-------------------|
| Exam 1: Thematic study and the historic environment | Medicine in Britain, c1250–present & The British sector of the Western Front, 1914–18: injuries, treatment and the trenches. | 30% | 1 hour 15 minutes |
| Exam 2: Period study & British depth study | Superpower Relations and the Cold War, 1941-1991 & Early Elizabethan England, 1558-1588. | 40% | 1 hour 45 minutes |
| Exam 3: Modern depth study | Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-1939. | 30% | 1 hour 20 minutes |



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Examination and Assessment: Examination Board: Edexcel

How will students be assessed throughout the course?

- Regular factual tests to check understanding and the development of revision and retrieval skills
- Regular exam question practice to apply knowledge and understanding to meet the demands of the exam questions
- End of unit tests
- Regular gap analysis and responsive tasks to address gaps
- Year 10 mock exam
- 2 x Year 11 mock exams