

Saint Augustine's History Department



History is an extremely popular option at St Augustine's. The History department holds a strong belief that all students' lives are enhanced by the study of History; we want our students to learn how the past has shaped the world we live in today and to be inspired to pursue the subject further. We believe in building a knowledge based curriculum that supports students to make links between topics and form complex arguments in a culture of high expectations where students are encouraged to be the best they can be.

The department has three specialist members of staff with Key Stage 3 classes supplemented by additional teaching when required. The department is housed in three specialist rooms, within the humanities building. The department boasts a wealth of teaching resources, each room has at least one interactive whiteboard and the department shares two class sets of laptops with the Geography department. These resources are used by the History team to deliver the curriculum in a dynamic and contemporary style. In Lower School, pupils are taught Medieval Realms in Year 7, the Making of the United Kingdom in Year 8 and in Year 9 they explore the era of the British Empire, the Industrial Revolution and World War I. Pupils in lower school are taught in sets according to their ability. Details of the curriculum can be found on the school website <https://www.sarchs.com/parents/curriculum>.

GCSE

History is a widely chosen option subject at GCSE with 3 or 4 GCSE option groups running in Year 10 and Year 11. The department currently follows the Edexcel specification, covering the following options; Crime & Punishment, Anglo-Saxons and Normans, Cold War and Superpower Relations and Weimar & Nazi Germany. GCSE option groups are mainly mixed ability and the school does not direct pupils to an E-Bacc set of option choices.

Prior to 2020, the department ran a number of trips to Normandy, Poland and Germany, as well as more local trips to Lancaster Castle with GCSE groups. The department previously worked with Mid Pennine Arts and Marsden Heights Community College to produce a documentary on the Pendle witches. The completed documentary led to the award of Secondary School of the Year:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DvZeboGmN4>

Due to the retirement of the current post-holder, we are looking for a Curriculum Leader who is passionate about History and can inspire pupils and colleagues in the study of the past. We want to appoint a colleague who is committed to their own professional development and to developing others, who enjoys teaching and is ambitious for the children in our care. The successful person will work in a friendly and forward-looking team in an outstanding Catholic school. New staff are made very welcome to the school and participate in a comprehensive induction programme.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Michael Wright
Headteacher