**History Department**

**Overview**

The history department at Hanley is highly successful, being the most popular option subject at GCSE, which constantly strives to embrace the latest developments in teaching and learning to provide the best opportunities for the pupils we teach. As a part of the wider Humanities Faculty, we collaborate effectively, and frequently, by discussing teaching methods, sharing good practice, and reflecting on our experiences in the classroom to ensure that the pupils receive the best possible education. The department’s ethos is simple: history lessons should provide pupils with valuable skills and knowledge to better understand the world around them, whilst simultaneously being enjoyable and memorable. Lessons are engaging and interactive, and focus on developing historical skills such as significance, research, and analysis to prepare pupils for the future, wherever their careers take them. Pupils are made aware of these skills and use them across the different Key Stages.

The department has a strong reputation within the school amongst pupils, staff, and parents. We have high expectations of our pupils and so staff are expected to meet these high standards in the preparation of resources, lesson planning, feedback to pupils and the delivery of lessons in a stimulating and challenging manner. This reputation is reflected in our GCSE take up rates with typically 65% of Year 8 pupils opting for our three-year GCSE course and with two large groups in both Year 12 and Year 13. Pupils currently study the GCSE AQA History course which includes units on America 1920-73, Conflict and tension in Asia 1950-75, medicine through time and Norman England c1066-c1100. At A-level we follow the Edexcel specification with units on Britain c1785-c1870, Italian Unification c1830-1870, Germany 1871-1990 and coursework.

At Key Stage 3, pupils are taught in mixed ability classes, which include the entire ability range. Lessons are constantly revised to ensure that all pupils can access the material used and can make good progress as a result. We cover historical events from 1066 to the present day, with a focus on local history where possible, including links to Upton, Tewkesbury and Worcester.

We have recently revised out Year 8 scheme of work to include more diverse history from the role of General Wolfe in the Seven Years’ War to the abolition of the slave trade, from Irish Independence to the major events of the Cold War. We are in the process of revising the Year 7 curriculum and the successful candidate would be expected to contribute to this process. The history department has a strong record of organising trips at home and abroad and now that these are feasible again, the successful applicant would be expected to take an active role in helping to organise and run these trips.

The department in February will consist of 3 specialists: The Head of Humanities Faculty, full time leader of History and the successful applicant for the duration of the maternity leave. There are three specialist history teaching rooms, all of which have interactive whiteboards and desktop PCs. The successful applicant will be expected to teach across all ability ranges, with an initial focus on Key Stages 3 and 4.