HISTORY DEPARTMENT SOUTH WILTS GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Teacher of History

The Post

We are looking to appoint a member of staff who is able to demonstrate an innovative and forward thinking approach to teaching history with effective communication and interpersonal skills. They will be an excellent classroom teacher, with a real interest in the subject who can contribute to the academic and wider life of the Department. As well as an enthusiasm for History they should enjoy working with young people.

Staffing

The department has four full-time teachers and one part-time teacher, teaching across History, Politics, Classical Civilisations and Latin. Within the department two members have SLT positions and one is a Head of Year. The History staff are committed, friendly and sociable.

Resources

The department is well resourced with a computer and projector in each classroom. We have a wide range of text and reference books. In addition, there is easy access to a number of computer rooms, which are often used by the department. All schemes of work are fully resourced and the department takes a collaborative approach to planning.

Curriculum

KS3 History follows a broadly chronological approach. Students engage with themes such as religion, power and culture in Anglo-Saxon and Medieval Britain as well as in the wider context of Europe and African Kingdoms in Year 7. In year 8 students explore empire, from the establishment of European and Mughal empires, through slavery and abolition and a study of the British Raj in India. They also explore the social impacts of the Industrial Reovlution. Year 9 considers the growth of personal freedom and civil rights for women and African Americans and also explores the rise of the Nazi Party, the Holocaust and the development of tensions in the Middle East.

The History department is committed to engaging students with the complexities of history, offering a knowledge rich curriculum with a focus on exploring how history is interpreted. We encourage a broader enthusiasm for history among KS3 students through extracurricular opportunities. The department holds a medieval mosaic workshop with a local artist, and runs a KS3 History Club. We also run a trip to Old Sarum and engage with Salisbury Museum.

History is a very popular subject in the school and this is shown by the high number of students opting to take History at GCSE and A-Level. There are five groups studying history at GCSE, with three in year 11 and two in Year 10. At GCSE we follow the Edexcel course, covering Medicine through Time and the reigns of Richard and John in year 10 and Russia and the Soviet Union and Superpower Relations (the Cold War) in year 11.

There are four groups studying A-Level history (two in year 12 and two in year 13) and it is a popular subject choice at sixth form level. Many of our students go on to study History at university and we regularly send candidates to Oxford and Cambridge. Our Edexcel A-Level follows a study of Britain (1918-1997) and the USA (1955-1992) in year 12. In year 13 students study the early modern witch craze in Britain, Europe and America and complete a piece of coursework considering historical interpretations of the abolition of the slave trade.

We also offerA-Level politics and A-Level Classical Civilisations within the department, we currently have one group each in years 12 and 13 for both subjects. In Politics students study the Edexcel course with chosen topics on Global Politics and Nationalism. Classical Civilisations is fully staffed.

Extra curricular activities

The department runs an annual residential trip exploring the battlefields of France and Belgium (Y10) and a visit to Washington DC (Y13). A year 12 trip takes place to the Chalke Valley History festival. We encourage students to engage with history widely beyond the curriculum and are always on the lookout for other opportunities we can offer.