

History

Why is History so important?

If you think that History is all about dead people who don't matter any more ... think again! History is an extremely exciting subject. When we study the past, we learn a lot about ourselves, and we can make better decisions and choices in the future.

History is all about people and their actions. We learn why certain events happened, and the consequences of those events or actions. History is full of exciting battles, amazing inventions, acts of heroism, sneaky plots and great discoveries. All these things helped to shape the world we live in.

But we also learn a lot of very important skills, which will help us with all our other subjects. These skills will be extremely useful in later life, too.

What will you learn in History at TCOLC?

We study a range of fascinating topics in Years 7 and 8, which will help to prepare our students who go on to take the subject at GCSE.

- In Year 7, for example, we learn some of the basic skills that historians use to study the past, before undertaking investigations into Medieval and Early Modern History: the famous Battle of Hastings in 1066; the murder of Archbishop Thomas Becket in Canterbury Cathedral; and how Henry VIII changed England by breaking away from the Catholic Church in Rome.
- In Year 8 we learn about the amazing inventions of the Industrial Revolution – the beginning of modern Britain. Then we investigate the Slave Trade, and the experiences of Black Americans up to the time of Martin Luther King and the Civil Rights Movement. Finally we learn about the First and Second World Wars, the rise of Hitler, and the Holocaust.

Studying History is like being a detective, as we look at evidence from the past to reach conclusions. We have plenty of opportunities for discussion and debate, and lots of individual and group work. We look at a range of materials, from books to music and films.

Above all, when you study History you will develop good writing skills that will help with all your subjects.

How will you succeed in History?

If you enjoy asking questions about the world around you, then you will definitely enjoy History!

Read about events in the news, and try to find links to what has happened in the past.

Develop your research skills, to discover more about how people used to live.

Discuss and debate issues in the classroom – and at home. Practise putting across your ideas by using evidence to support them.

Keep an open mind, by listening to others and understanding their views.

Just think: in the future, students will be studying our present as History. They might even be learning about you ...

