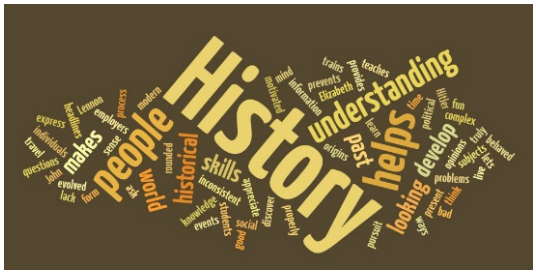
HISTORY

What is GCSE history?



History is the study of events, processes and people of the past. It is about asking questions to uncover the causes of events, to analyse the patterns of change and continuity and to investigate how we can understand and interpret the past using sources. Utilising its rich and diverse body of knowledge, History brings together key analytical skills suited for life beyond the classroom and in the competitive job market.

How is the GCSE structured?

Paper 1	**Thematic study:** Crime and punishment (1hour 15 minutes)	30%
Paper 2	**Period study and British depth study:** Early Elizabethan England 1558-1588 Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941–91 (1 hour 45 minutes)	40%
Paper 3	**Modern depth study:** Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–39 (1 hour 20 minutes)	30%

Why study history?

Students who study history at GCSE and beyond are fearless explorers of the past. If you enjoy investigating about societies (people), politics, cultures, languages, health, art, education, money and conflicts, then look no further. Studying GCSE history will not only enable you to understand the past but to make sense of the increasingly complex modern world we live in. Like a detective, you will sharpen your skills to make sense of, organise and come to clear conclusions about key pieces of information.

The skills which historians at UHS develop are wide-ranging and respected by colleges, universities and future employers. If you choose history at GCSE, you will develop: **research and problem-solving skills, excellent communication and writing skills, the ability to construct a clear argument as well as analytical and interpretation skills.** In addition, through the study of history you may access a range of different sectors: **law, politics, public sector, business, journalism, education, historical curation and academia.** The idea that all historians work in museums is a folly – the majority work across this large range of sectors."

Head of Humanities/History: Mrs Harris