HISTORY

EXAM BOARD: Pearson Edexcel

3 WRITTEN EXAMS 80%

20% INDEPENDENT ESSAY

Why study History?

Here at Stratford upon Avon School the topics we study in History reflect the expertise and enthusiasm of our department, allowing staff to share their passion for their specialist areas ans inspire students to develop a genuine interest inthe past.

Our course explores **Britain, 1625 - 1701: Conflict, Revolution and Settlement**, examining the political, religious and social upheavals that shaped modern Britain; **France in Revolution, 1774 - 99**, which investigates the causes, course and consequences of one of the most significant events in European history and: **The Witch Craze in Britain, Europe and North America, c1580 - c1750**, offering a unique and engaging study of belief, persecution and social change across the early modern world.

These modules provide students with a diverse and stimulating course, alongside developing the analytical and evaluative skills required for success in higher education. The topic-based coursework element, completed in Year 13, is independently researched and students have the freedom to choose their own area of historical interest in consultation with staff. Previous essays have ranged from the causes of the fall of the Roman Empire, to whether the Germans were active supporters in the Holocaust.

Subject Specification Outline and Final Exam Format:

Paper 1: Britain, 1625 - 1701: Conflict, Revolution & Settlement	Paper 2: France in Revolution, 1774 - 1799	Paper 3: The Witch Craze in Britain, Europe & North America, c1580 - c1750	Topic-based essay Independently researched
135 mins (30%)	90 mins (20%)	135 mins (30%)	(20%)

Progress Assessment:

Structured essays and questions and half- termly assessments.

Self Study Requirements:

Reading around the subject, in particular academic articles and university-level books and a thorough use of other A-Level texts and alternative research opinions. Participation in extracurricular trips to Birmingham University library for research.

Progression Pathways:

A-Level History challenges students' minds and develops independent learners, critical thinkers and decision-makers. These are all personal qualities that can make them stand out as they progress to higher education and/or the workplace.

History develops:

Communication - the ability to discuss and evaluate key issues in writing is vital to any future success.

Time management - the skill of prioritising work is very important.

Problem solving - History is full of problems that need solving.

Drive and determination - any successful History A-Level student will have shown the drive and determination to succeed.

Our students, beyond Stratford: our 2026 Historians have gone onto study History, Politics, Law with Business, Motorsport Engineering, Marketing, Media, Communication & Cultural Studies, Psychology, Sociology & Criminology, Media, Journalsim & Publishing at the universities of Newcastle, Exeter, Coventry, Bath Spa, Warwick and Oxford Brookes.

