

Entry Requirements:

Holy Family Sixth Form entry requirements apply. Desirable entry requirements are a grade 6 or above in GCSE History, or those students who did not complete a GCSE in History may still apply providing that they have attained a grade 7 in English.

The Learning:

The aims of the History A Level are to encourage students to acquire an understanding of different identities within society and an appreciation of social, cultural, religious, political and ethnic diversity through the study of aspects of British and non-British history.

In this subject you will experience a broad and balanced course of study which will help you to improve as an effective and independent learner and as a critical and reflective thinker with a curious and enquiring mind. You will also develop your use and understanding of historical terms, concepts and skills and learn to make links and draw comparisons within and/or across different periods and aspects of the past using a variety of contemporary and secondary sources. Finally, pupils will be encouraged to organise and communicate their historical knowledge and understanding in different ways, arguing a case and reaching substantiated judgements.

There are a broad range of topics on offer in the new A Level syllabuses. All students will be required to study topics that span a chronological period of at least 200 years. Topics that you may study at A Level include the mid Tudor Crisis, Russia and rulers in the 19th and 20th centuries and Civil Rights in the USA 1865-1992. A final unit requires students to work independently to write a 4000 word essay from a wide selection of topics. 80% of the A Level will be assessed through three separate written exams and the remaining 20% will be assessed as coursework.

What direction this course might take you in:

On completion of the course, students can progress to higher education courses such as honours degrees in History, or to degrees in related subjects such as Politics, Law, English Literature, Economics or Geography; or to vocational qualifications such as Teaching, Journalism or Travel and Tourism. Students will obtain skills which will be useful in a number of careers, either directly related to history (e.g. working in museums, galleries, heritage sites, record offices and archives or teaching) or in areas such as journalism, libraries, national/local government and the civil service. History remains a respected qualification by all professions and academic institutes due to its level of challenge and difficulty.