



HISTORY DEPARTMENT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Here in The Lakes School History Department, we recognise that changing schools can be a uniquely challenging and arduous process for History teachers. Maths is maths, physics is physics, French is French. History, however, isn't 'just' history. What you planned, resourced and delivered in a previous school frequently turns out to be surplus in a new school. Your Russian Revolution lessons become redundant when you move to a school which focusses on the Civil Rights Movement. Your Tudor Reformations course is of no use to your new school which delivers the French Revolution.

That's why, here at The Lakes School, we invite you to teach whatever you want ... within certain parameters. Whilst it is certainly hoped that you would adopt the school's existing GCSE Units in order to aid in mutual support, resource-sharing and moderation etc, if you are an experienced teacher with a proven track record of successful teaching delivering *other* Units, even from other examination boards, you will be welcome to introduce them here at The Lakes School.

KEY STAGE 3

In Years 7 to 9, we follow a largely traditional curriculum. After a brief skills-focussed unit, we spend the majority of Year 7 on the medieval period before moving on to the Tudors by the end of the year. Year 8 then commences with the Stuarts before progressing on to the industrial and imperial eras. Year 9 is therefore dedicated in its entirety to a comprehensive, detailed and robust study of the twentieth century.

GCSE

AQA is the established Examination Board. Your colleague, Mr Pickering, will be delivering the following Units:

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| <i>Paper 1:</i> | <i>The USA 1920-73</i> |
| | <i>Conflict and Tension in Asia 1950-75</i> |
| <i>Paper 2:</i> | <i>Power and the People 1170-Present Day</i> |
| | <i>Norman England 1066-1100</i> |

If you are an NQT, it will be expected that you adopt and deliver these units in order to allow for the most effective support to be offered to you. If you are an experienced teacher who would be happy to deliver these topics in order to facilitate the mutual support mentioned above, Mr Pickering will provide you with a full raft of lesson resources for all four units for you to adopt or adapt as you see fit. If, on the other hand, you are an experienced teacher with your own successful units from your own Examination Board, you will be able, if you so wish, to introduce your existing course to your own Year 10 class in order to ease your workload in transitioning to your new position. Please be aware, though: in your first year, you would, of course, be responsible for seeing out your Year 11's AQA course (even though you would be free to choose their remaining units).

A-LEVEL

AQA is the established Examination Board. But, here at The Lakes School, we're a little different.

A 2013 survey by Cambridge University found that half of the top ten most popular A-level History courses in the UK focussed on just two topics: the Tudors and the Nazis. That is why, currently, we don't teach those courses here at The Lakes School. Neither do we teach the number one topic, the Russian Revolution. Instead, we seek to stimulate our students' sense of intrigue and discovery, and develop their skills of enquiry and debate, by pursuing two more unusual and yet equally important and respected topic areas.

Paper 1: The Age of the Crusades 1071-1204

Your colleague, Mr Pickering, delivers this Unit. In this topic area, students study not only the repeated attempts by Christian Europe to take back the Holy Land from Islamic hands but other key developments in Western Europe, the Byzantine Empire and the Islamic Near East in the 12th century.

Paper 2: The English Revolution 1625-60

You would be required at least to see out Year 13 in this topic area. Students study in considerable depth the challenges faced by those in authority in the years before, during and after the English Civil Wars. However, you would be free to introduce to the new Year 12 students any preferred Unit you might have from AQA's list of Paper 2 topics.

Coursework: A range of pre-1485 topics

Students are currently offered a range of medieval questions from which to choose. Topics include the Fall of Rome, the Anglo-Saxon migrations, Æthelberht of Kent, Offa of Mercia, the Viking invasions, Alfred the Great, the Norman Conquest, John, Henry V and Richard III. Keith Milne, Chief Moderator at AQA, has complimented our topic choices, stating in 2016 that it was "reassuring indeed that a Centre is trying to engage so positively with the potential of the NEA and is not resorting to some of the more tired questions". Of course, if you are an experienced teacher with your own pre-approved AQA questions, or an NQT with a particular interest, you will be welcome to introduce or formulate your own questions to add to the list.

EXTRA CURRICULAR

Here in The Lakes School History Department, we are firm believers in the educational value of trips and visiting speakers and a willingness to take on the organisation of even more of these events would be a distinct advantage. In recent years, we have taken A-level students across to York for the BBC History Weekend, taken Year 7 to Hadrian's Wall, participated in the Holocaust Educational Trust's visits to Auschwitz and taken Years 10 and 11 to New York, USA. A repeat of this last trip is in the initial stages of planning for February 2020.

We are also extremely fortunate to be associated with the 'Windermere Boys', a group of 300 Jewish children who were brought to what is now our school site after the camps they were interred in were liberated in 1945. To mark this important fact, in 2017, we launched a project to collect 1.5 million buttons to represent the number of children murdered during the Holocaust and install them in a permanent memorial on site. The response from around the world has been overwhelming. A willingness to become involved in the organisation and promotion of this unique and nationally important project would, again, be a distinct advantage.