



History - Using knowledge of the past to be more informed and critical of the world around us today.

Year 7: 'Conquest, Reform and Expansion'



Term	Key Topic	Key Content
YEAR 7 AUTUMN TERM 1	What does a Historian do?	- Importance of History - Talk like a historian (oracy/questioning) - Significance and Chronology - How Historians do their job (interpretations)
	How diverse were Ancient Civilisations?	- Governance and innovation - Trade and commerce - Architecture & Agriculture - Religion & Beliefs / Politics and power (E.g., democracy, war) - The social, cultural & political differences between civilisations
YEAR 7 AUTUMN TERM 2	How did the Norman invasion impact England's landscape?	- Anglo-Saxon England - a brief overview - Understand the motives of the contenders for the English throne. - Key battles (Stamford Bridge, Battle of Hastings) Causes and consequences. - Reasons why William won - Impacts and changes to England resulting from the Norman Conquest (William's Control - Feudal system, Domesday Book, Castles, Harrying of the North). - Local History - Domesday book used to record the wealth of Hatfield and Hertford. - Assessing the accuracy of the story told by the Bayeux Tapestry
YEAR 7 SPRING TERM 3	Were medieval peasants powerless slaves?	- Typical life in a Medieval town (Historian, Ian Mortimer's Interpretation) - Medieval church and the purpose of Doom paintings - Medieval monarchs (King John, Magna Carta, Peasants' Revolt) - What did Medieval people think caused disease? - The Black Death, 1348 (short and long-term impacts)
YEAR 7 SPRING TERM 4	How far did Tudor society tolerate differences, defiance, and diversity?	- How the Tudors approached disability and race - Who rebelled against Henry VIII and why? (Pilgrimage of Grace, Reformation & dissolution of monasteries) - Religious turmoil & rivalry between Protestants and Catholics. - The consequences of Mary I becoming Queen - Why was Elizabeth I almost assassinated?
YEAR 7 SUMMER TERM 5	Why did Elizabeth I fund pirates?	- Age of explorations and early colonisation - Where and why the Elizabethans explored - The impacts of exploration for different people - Can it be called a 'Golden Era'?
YEAR 7 SUMMER TERM 6	Local Study (Romans. St Albans through the ages)	Step back in time and uncover the layers of local history beneath St Albans, where the echoes of ancient Verulamium still resonate through the modern Hertfordshire landscape.

WHY DO WE LEARN THESE UNITS?

Builds critical thinking: Teaches how to evaluate evidence, interpretation and spot bias.

Explains today's world: Connects past events to current global issues.

Develops analytical skills: Helps develop debating skills and form well-supported arguments using historical data.

Fosters cultural empathy: Explores diverse perspectives across different eras.

What will I do in Year 8 and Year 9?

	Year 8	Year 9
Term 1	Witchcraft / The English Civil War	The Titanic / Suffragettes / WW1
Term 2	Revolutions - American & French / The British Empire (incs British Raj, 1858-1947)	The Rise of Dictators / WWII (incs Holocaust)
Term 3	The Transatlantic Slave Trade / The Industrial Revolution & Jack the Ripper.	The Cold War / American Rights Movement / Modern Rights

