

Year 8: 'Revolution, Civil War and Empire'

Term	Key Topic	Key Content
YEAR 8 AUTUMN TERM 1	What can the Witch trials teach us about Early Modern inequality?	- How beliefs of witchcraft have changed over time - Different interpretations of witches / Cultural and popular fiction influences. - How sources have portrayed the witch - Were men accused too? - Local Essex and Hertfordshire witchcraft cases/trials
YEAR 8 AUTUMN TERM 2	Was Charles I the maker of his own downfall?	- The various events that caused the English Civil War. - The chronology of the battles and that the Parliamentarians won the ECW. - That the King was put to death by Oliver Cromwell. - There were many new ideas about how to run the country after the ECW
YEAR 8 SPRING TERM 3	Did the American Revolution inspire the French Revolution?	- Why did Britain want to settle in America? - Why America wanted an end to British control - How useful are sources when learning about revolutions? - Reasons why the French were unhappy and ready for revolution - Debate over how far the American Revolution inspired the French Revolution - Napoleon's role in the French Revolution - Lord Nelson and the Battle of Trafalgar
YEAR 8 SPRING TERM 4	Why was India the 'Jewel' in the British Empire's crown?	- That the British Empire was a profit making enterprise. - That Britain wanted an Empire to compete with other European countries. - That India was very prosperous but divided before the British came. - That the Indians fought back against British colonial rule. - The British Raj fundamentally changed how India was governed. - How the British Empire has had a lasting impact on Britain.
YEAR 8 SUMMER TERM 5	Why were Africans enslaved?	- That Africa was viewed with awe and wonder from Europe. - That Africa had thriving Kingdoms and cultures before European contact. - That the Transatlantic trade system was a profit making process. - That the conditions were horrible during the middle passage. - That the slave trade was eventually abolished and the factors which caused it. - That the impact of the slave trade still reverberates through until today.
YEAR 8 SUMMER TERM 6	Did Victorian London's conditions influence the Ripper murders?	- What was the Industrial Revolution? - Social, economical and politics impacts - The experience and consequences of child factory workers - Science & technology - Key inventions & innovations - Industrial growth and urbanisation. - How the Industrial Revolution changed the landscape of Britain.

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 did I learn in Year 7 and what will I learn in Year 9?

	Year 7	Year 9
Term 1	What does a Historian do? / Ancient Civilisations / The Norman Conquest	Titanic & Suffragettes / WW1
Term 2	Medieval Life / The Tudors & The Reformation	The Rise of Dictators / WW2 & the Holocaust
Term 3	Elizabethan England / Local History Unit	The Cold War / American Civil Rights / Modern Rights