



History at Catshill Middle School

History at CMS aims to provide pupils with a balanced and broad overview of some of the most influential periods of British and the world's History. It will provide them with opportunities to evaluate, synthesise, identify cause and effect patterns whilst gaining an understanding of how the modern world we now live in has been developed

Year 5

The Vikings



The Tudors



The Ancient Greeks



Curriculum focus

Pupils will explore the Viking period chronologically, using enquiry to study key events like the Lindisfarne raid, analyse sources, examine longships and trade routes.

Pupils will use sources to investigate Henry VIII, analysing his marriages, power, and punishments, and using inventories to explore Tudor wealth, society, and change over time.

Pupils will investigate Ancient Greece through its chronology, beliefs, and key features, exploring democracy, philosophy, and city-states, comparing Athens and Sparta, and evaluating its lasting legacy and influence.

Year 6

Victorian England



World War II



Local History Study



Curriculum focus

Pupils will study the Industrial Revolution and Victorian era, using enquiry and census data to explore the lives of children and women, compare past and present work, and analyse the women's suffrage movement.

Pupils will investigate World War II causes, the Battle of Britain, and evacuees' experiences, analyse sources and explore the war's impact on women.

Pupils will explore how Catshill and Bromsgrove have changed over time, investigating local industries, transport, education, and key people through sources and fieldwork.

Year 7

Norman Conquest



Medieval Period



Black Death



Witches / Oppression of Women



Curriculum focus

Pupils will study 1066, exploring the monarch, key battles, the feudal system, analysing sources and perspectives.

Pupils will build on Norman society knowledge, exploring Medieval social structure, key events, monarchs, and the role of religion.

Pupils will study the Empire, Silk Road, Black Death, and Peasants' Revolt, examining their impact on towns, feudalism, and serfdom.

Pupils will explore medieval fear of witchcraft, examining accusations, trials, punishments, and the role of superstition and the church, while also comparing beliefs in other parts of the world.

Year 8

African Kingdoms



Slave Trade



Industrial Revolution



American Civil Rights movement



Curriculum focus

Pupils will study West African kingdoms, Ghana, Mansa Musa, Benin Bronzes, and historians' perspectives on African history.

Pupils will study the early sugar trade, the Transatlantic Slave Trade, and the sugar crisis, exploring its human and historical impact.

Pupils will study the Industrial Revolution, its causes, inventions, urban migration, political radicals, and events like Jack the Ripper, developing enquiry skills.

Pupils will study Jim Crow laws, key Civil Rights events, leaders, legislation, and compare US and UK racial issues.

Beyond CMS

Having completed Year Eight at Catshill Middle School, the vast majority of pupils move on to local High Schools. They join pupils from a number of other schools and continue their History learning journey- prepared to move to GCSE level.