

Oakfield Academy History Department Reading Strategy

History is a literacy-based subject and requires particular kinds of reading and writing skills that are critical to students being school, college, career ready.

Learners will need to learn how to ask questions about what they are reading and History offers them the opportunities to learn how to identify ambiguities, weigh up evidence and construct a bias free, balanced argument.



Studying history requires reading from many types of text – from public speeches to private letters and diaries to political cartoons. It includes ‘reading’ paintings, objects, and film as well as analysing primary sources for perspective and reliability and secondary sources for argument and supporting evidence. Being able to recognise significant historical events in the news also enables pupils to take a scholarly approach to their learning outside of the classroom which is heavily encouraged throughout the history curriculum. As with other subjects within the Humanities faculty there are numerous links to non-fiction and fictional pieces of literature that pupils can engage with to deepen their understanding and provide additional context to their learning.

