St Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic High School: Curriculum (2025-2026)



SUBJECT: HISTORY

Year Group	YEAR 9									
Rationale	This year is a key year for pupils. We have selected topics which we hope will enthuse and inspire pupils to opt for the subject at GCSE but to ensure that those who don't are fully aware of some of the key lessons and developments of the 20 th Century. The level of detail pupils are expected to understand and retain is enhanced and pupils are required to examine some key pre-conceptions about modern British history.									
	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2				
	Topic/Unit:	Topic/Unit:	Topic/Unit:	Topic/Unit:	Topic/Unit:	Topic/Unit:				
Knowledge	- Who were the Suffragettes? - How did the Suffragettes use propaganda? - What really happened to Emily Davison? - How did WW1 change the position of women? - Interpretations of the Suffragettes What was the Treaty of Versailles? - Who was Adolf Hitler? - Why did people vote for Hitler? - How did Hitler become Chancellor?	- How did Hitler turn Germany from a democracy into a dictatorship? - How did the Nazis create an atmosphere of terror? - What was life like in Nazi Germany? CITIZENSHIP How is Britain governed? What are the different ideas on how to govern a country? How are other powerful countries governed?	- Who were the main victims of the Holocaust? - What was Jewish life like before 1933? - How did the Holocaust start? (1930s Anti-Jewish Legislation) - What were conditions like in the Ghettos? Pupils watch the film 'The Pianist' during this sequence of lessons making notes on the conditions endured by those trapped in the Warsaw Ghetto.	- What was 'life' like in a concentration camp? - Final solution - What evidence would convict a Nazi of war crimes? - Who was responsible for the Holocaust? - How should the Holocaust be memorialised? - Why did the Second World War break out? - Was appeasement the right policy? - What was Blitzkrieg? - Was Dunkirk a defeat or a victory? Sources on Dunkirk.	- What was life like in Britain? (Evacuation) - Was the Battle of Britain a turning point? - Was there Blitz Spirit? - What happened at Stalingrad? - Why did America join the war in 1941? - What was D-Day? - Were the USA right to use nuclear weapons at the end of WW2?	- Would the Nazis have won the Second World War if Britain hadn't been involved? - How significant was Britain in the Second World War? - Was Churchill really a good Prime Minister? - What happened in the 9/11 terror attacks? - What were the causes of 9/11? - What were the consequences of 9/11?				
Skills	■ The skill focus for the first half term include: - The development of factual knowledge - Interpretations with a focus on the differing views of the importance of the Suffragette movement. - Explaining causes	The skill focus for the second half term include: The development of factual knowledge. Explaining causes and consequences with a focus on the impact the Nazis had on life in Germany	■ The skill focus for the third half term include: ■ The development of factual knowledge which builds on and deepens the knowledge acquired in R.E and English studies of the Holocaust. ■ Developing an empathetic understanding of the victims of the Holocaust.	 The skill focus for the fourth half term include: Making inferences – a key part of our Holocaust Assessment. Explaining causes Development of factual knowledge. Source analysis and evaluation – pupils analyse sources relating to the Dunkirk evacuation and identify and explain their strengths and weaknesses as sources. 	 The skill focus for the fifth half term include: The development of factual knowledge if a key conflict which has helped shape many features of the modern world. Significance. Pupils examine how important Britain really was in the Second World War given the prominent role it holds in our current national identity. 	The skill focus for the sixth half term include: Explaining an opinion — Pupils focus on Winston Churchill and examine his leadership to develop an opinion on whether he really was a 'great' Prime Minister.				

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Assessments:	Written		There is no	Inferences /		Written
Formative	assessment -		lengthy, formal	creative		assessment -
	Interpretations		assessment in	assessment -		Pupils produce
	focus on the		this half term	Pupils create a		an extended
	Suffragettes.		due to the	memorial for		written answer
	Pupils examine		length and	the Holocaust.		to the following
	two		structure of the	This has to		question.
			Holocaust unit.			
	interpretations		Holocaust unit.	include several		Again, it follows
	and identify and			ʻhidden		the hypothesis
	explain the			meanings'		question format
	differences			which relate to		used at GCSE.
	between the			different		"The British
	two views.			aspects of the		army was a
				Holocaust they		vital part of the
				have covered.		alliance which
				Pupils then		defeated Nazi
				deliver a short		Germany in
				presentation to		1945".
				the rest of their		How far do you
				class in which		agree with this
				they explain the		statement?
				meaning of		Statement:
				their memorial.		
				uleli illelilollai.		
Assessments:		Assessment 1:			Assessment 2:	
Summative						
		Pupils are			Pupils are	
		assessed on			assessed on	
		their factual			their factual	
		knowledge,			knowledge,	
		their ability to			their ability to	
		make			make	
		inferences and			inferences and	
		their ability to			their ability to	
		explain			explain	
		=			=	
		reasons.			reasons.	
Homework.	Suffragette	Practice	Planning /	Research tasks	Research tasks	Practice
Homework	speech task,	explanation	design tasks for	on the outbreak	on elements of	paragraphs to
tasks are not	research tasks	paragraphs	the Holocaust	of the Second	the Second	explain the
prescriptive in	on Adolf Hitler	using details	memorial,	World War /	World War	consequences
History but	and the early	from lessons to	making the	Blitzkrieg,	which are not	of the Second
may include	Nazi Party,	explain the	Holocaust	source analysis	taught in class,	World War for
the following:					Winston	Britain.
the following:	practice	impact of life in	memorial,	tasks on the		DIIIaiii.
	explanation	Nazi Germany.	revision for a	Dunkirk	Churchill	
	paragraphs on	Revision task	factual test on	evacuation.	opinion task	
	the reasons for	for fact test on	the Holocaust.		based on	
	the rise of the	life in Nazi			source	
	Nazis.	Germany.			research.	