Curriculum Summary Document

Year 7 – *History*

Connected Worlds

In Year 7, students explore the medieval and early modern world by questioning familiar stories and uncovering wider connections. The curriculum is designed to challenge simple and traditional narratives of the past by showing students that medieval and early modern people lived in worlds shaped by trade, religion, migration, disease, rebellion, global exchange and contested authority. Students are encouraged to question familiar accounts, including the idea that 1066 was only a story of kings, battles and conquest, or that the First Crusade can only be understood from a western European perspective. They consider whose stories have usually been placed at the centre of history and whose voices have been hidden, including women, rebels, religious communities and people living beyond England. By moving between local, national and global histories, students see that events in England were connected to wider worlds of belief, trade, learning and conflict. This year of study helps students understand that history is not simply a fixed story to be remembered, but a discipline shaped by evidence, interpretation and the choices historians make. By the end of the year, students should recognise that the medieval and early modern world was more connected, contested and complex than traditional narratives often suggest.

Module/Unit of Learning	Taught During	What will students learn?	How does this help to build a broad and strong foundation?	Links to Other Subjects
How did Baghdad reveal a connected Medieval world?	Autumn One	Students investigate Baghdad during the Abbasid Caliphate, exploring trade, scholarship, religion and cultural exchange across Asia, Africa and Europe. They examine how ideas, goods and knowledge travelled across medieval networks.	Students begin to challenge misconceptions about the Medieval world and develop an understanding of significance, diversity and historical connections across different societies.	Geography, Religious Studies, English
What can the Via Francigena reveal about the power of Medieval Christianity? **'Hidden in Plain Sight': How did women shape the story of the Norman Conquest?**	Autumn Two	Students explore the importance of medieval pilgrimage and the influence of Christianity across Europe before examining the Norman Conquest through the experiences and contributions of women often overlooked in traditional narratives.	Students develop their understanding of historical interpretations, significance and the importance of different perspectives in constructing historical narratives.	Religious Studies, Life: Citizenship, English

Why does Frankopan think the story of the First Crusade should begin in Constantinople? **Nightmare Kings: Why did barons keep rebelling against English rulers?**	Spring One	Students investigate the causes and consequences of the First Crusade through global perspectives before exploring challenges to royal authority in medieval England, including baronial rebellions and changing relationships between rulers and subjects.	Students develop their understanding of causation and consequence while considering how historians construct and challenge historical narratives.	Geography, Religious Studies, Life: Citizenship
Did climate and disease destroy the Medieval world, or did humans reshape it?	Spring Two	Students investigate the impact of climate change, famine and the Black Death on medieval societies and evaluate the extent to which people adapted to and reshaped their world in response to these challenges.	Students build understanding of change and continuity while making connections between environmental, social and economic factors in history.	Geography, Science
Why did reformation become rebellion in Cornwall? **What connected the Tudors to the wider world?**	Summer One	Students explore the impact of the Reformation through the Prayer Book Rebellion before examining England's growing connections with Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas during the Tudor period.	Students develop an understanding of religious, political and cultural change while exploring how local events connect to wider national and global developments.	Religious Studies, Geography, English
Which artefacts best tell the story of the English Civil War?	Summer Two	Through a museum-style enquiry, students investigate the causes, events and consequences of the English Civil War. They analyse artefacts and sources to decide which objects best represent the significance of the conflict.	Students develop source analysis, interpretation and significance skills while applying historical knowledge through independent enquiry and presentation.	English, Art, Life: Citizenship