



History Curriculum Overview - Year 8

	Unit	Details
Autumn One	Democracy and Dictatorships	This is a new enquiry question which will be launching in the 2023-24 academic year. In this enquiry, pupils will explore the two key concepts of democracy and dictatorship, by looking at some key examples of dictatorships of the twentieth century. They will investigate key features and compare different examples, some of which they will broaden their understanding of when taking history at both GCSE and A-Level.
Autumn Two	World War Two	Again, as part of our new series of enquiry questions launching in the 2023-24 academic year, pupils will then look at some of the aforementioned leaders and their significance in contributing to the outbreak of World War 2. Pupils will look at some of the key developments of World War 2 and the significant threat and impact it posed on Britain.
Spring One	Why is it important to annually commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day? (Enquiry question changing in 2023/24)	Pupils will then look specifically at events in Germany leading up to and during the Second World War. This will allow pupils to combine their knowledge from their previous two enquiries to understand the pogrom and genocide experienced by the Jewish population of Europe. With a clear focus on the individuals who experienced these events, memoirs are used significantly throughout the teaching of this topic to allow their history to be told in their own words. This teaching of this enquiry also coincides Holocaust Memorial Day on the 27th January to allow pupils to fully comprehend the significance of this day.
Spring Two	Free at Last? How far had the Civil Rights Movement come by 1963? (and beyond...)	Pupils then continue to consider the importance of human and civil rights by looking at the fight for and development of Civil Rights throughout the twentieth century. Pupils will begin by looking at the significance of the emancipation proclamation under Abraham Lincoln and whilst this provided freedom from being enslaved, it did in fact provide equality or freedom for all. Pupils will then look at key aspects of the fight for rights including the impact of the Jim Crow Laws on legislation and attitudes in society, key case studies such as Little Rock Nine, key individuals such as Emmett Till, Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King Jr and Malcom X. Their studies will then conclude with looking at the continued fight for Civil Rights beyond the pivotal year of 1963.
Summer One		
Summer Two	Local History Project	For the remainder of their studies, pupils will complete group research projects and investigations into the local history of Tynemouth. Whilst this is also a concept that is visited where possible throughout their main enquiries, this project allows them to collaboratively develop their research and presentation skills.