History *at MSJ Sixth Form*

If you are curious about the past, History is a compelling subject. History teaches us to question everything. History is a study of how complex, inventive, destructive, mad, marvellous, bad, good, strong, weak, clever, boring, lively, witty and dull human beings are.

Historians are trained to look for prejudice in the evidence they study. Few subjects deal so well with sorting out what is useful, reliable and relevant. History teaches you to examine critically, argue logically and come to an analytical judgement - essential transferrable skills.

As a rigorous academic discipline History is a highly respected A Level subject for entry to almost all degree courses.

TO PURSUE THE A LEVEL COURSE SUCCESSFULLY, PUPILS IDEALLY NEED A MINIMUM OF:

GCSE English 6, GCSE History 6

Interest in History and willingness to read around

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

Y106 England 1485-1547 & The Mid Tudor Crisis 1547-1558.

Y203 The Crusades and the Crusader States 1095-1192

Y312 Popular Culture and the Witch Craze in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth centuries.

Y100 An extended independent research essay.

History equips you with skills and knowledge on how to structure answers to challenging questions, it teaches analysis and evaluation and it gives you the tools to think beyond and really form fact and evidence supported opinions. Studying History makes you change the way you think about things; without even realising it you end up becoming a person who is able to analyse and evaluate any question thrown your way.

IS IT THE RIGHT COURSE FOR ME?

What skills will I need?

A willingness to read critically, write and speak coherently. Independent thought and research are essential. All these skills are developed by the A Level.

WHAT ARE THE POSSIBLE CAREER PATHWAYS?

The Higher Education Statistical Agency places History in the top five disciplines in terms of successful employability within six months of graduation.

As History is about sifting evidence precisely and constructing arguments, there is a natural progression to a career in Law. A very high percentage of Law students will have studied History A Level. Moreover, it supports careers in Banking and Journalism by honing skills in research and analysis. History students are not simply destined to become history teachers! Nor are they destined to work in a museum or library. There are so many careers out there that require the skills that a study of history can bring; law, medicine, business, finance, diplomacy, administration, accountancy, tourism, town planning, politics, journalism, research to name but a few.

TWITTER

@MSJ_HistPol

HEAD OF SUBJECT

Mr A Fisher
fishea@malvernstjames.co.uk

EXAM BOARD

OCR

HOW IS IT ASSESSED?	
Y100 Coursework	An essay of 3000-4000 words arising from independent study and research. Including the use of primary sources and historical interpretations.
Y106 Examination 1 hour 30 minute paper	A source evaluation question on the Mid-Tudor crisis and a topic essay on the Early Tudors.
Y203 Examination 1 hour	1 short answer question and 1 essay
Y312 Examination 2 hours 30 minutes	2 thematic essays and 1 evaluation of historical interpretations