

A-Level Preparation into the Sixth Form 2024

History

A Level History at St Michael's

We study the AQA A Level History syllabus. <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/history/as-and-a-level/history-7041-7042/specification-at-a-glance> Pupils study two subjects starting in Y12 and continuing into Y13. 1D The Crisis of Stuart Monarchy 1603-1702 and 2P The Transformation of China 1936- 1997. The Coursework Unit (NEA) is Britain and Ireland, the History of the Union 1800-1921. Exam topics are 40%, 40% and coursework 20% of the total award.

Paper 1D The Crisis of Stuart Monarchy 1603-1702 One Exam. 2 Hours 30 Minutes. Students answer two essay questions and one question based on a critical evaluation of three extracts from historians' interpretations.

Paper 2P The Transformation of China. 1936-1997 One Exam. Two Hours 30 Minutes. Students answer two essay questions and one question based on a critical evaluation of three historical documents.

Coursework (Non-Examined Assessment) Students answer a single question (maximum 4,500 words) based on a taught topic (Britain and Ireland and the Union 1800-1921) and their own independent research. Answers must show an understanding of change and continuity. A critical use of historians' interpretations and historical documents must form part of the answer.

Preparatory Work

As preparation for A Level History you are asked to complete an essay during the summer. Choose a topic you have not studied before. DO NOT spend hours of work on this topic. Do some internet and documentary research and assemble some analytical judgements. Shape these analytical judgements into a series of linked judgements which answer the question. Choose a title from the list of questions <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/history/essay-competition> Twenty titles to choose from. Please note the advice given by Sheffield University, answers should be predominantly analytical. Your answer should be c.700 words long, typed. The idea is to get thinking, look things up, think about shaping an argument and writing it convincingly. It is a warm up for A Level History. It will be handed in and marked but it doesn't count towards anything. It is a 'loosener' to get your history ideas flowing after the summer break.