

## HISTORY (AQA)



History is the analysis of evidence from the past in order to find out and explain what happened. It involves the arrangement of information about events and trends in history in such a way that conveys understanding of the significance of events and the pattern of history. It involves the construction of a narrative of history. It requires the ability to explain and analyse the causes and consequences of historical events.

### THE STUDY OF A LEVEL HISTORY

- Develops the ability to weigh evidence. Students are required to handle the evidence critically and link the content of documents with the provenance of the evidence. Students are trained to apply such documentary evidence to the study of a particular enquiry.
- Explores the claims of different interpretations of History and considers the merits of contrasting views of history.
- Encourages clarity of thought, speaking and writing and especially the organisation of clear, logical arguments or judgements about History, to express an opinion convincingly. Students write a narrative of events which makes sense of the unfolding pattern of history.

St Michael's offers the following A Level History course

#### AQA A Level History

**Paper 1:** Stuart Britain and the Crisis of Monarchy 1603-1702. One end of course paper with 3 exam questions. Two essays based on a critical understanding of different key issues of the period. One question requiring students to evaluate different authors and their divergent interpretations of the period. 40%

**Paper 2:** The Transformation of China 1936-1997. One end of course paper with 3 exam questions. Two essays based on a critical understanding of different key issues of the period. One question requiring students to evaluate different primary source material and understand its value for an enquiry into a particular issue. 40%

**COURSEWORK:** A single answer to a student generated question. The Non-Examined Assessment (NEA) must cover a period between 100 and 120 years. The question can focus on an issue within that period but must take into account the context of the whole period. Students must make use of at least two historians whose interpretations provide different ways of understanding the period. Students must also make use of at least 3 cotemporary documents from the period which they must apply to their answer.

The department is well resourced in terms of books and DVD resources. Attending lectures and educational visits are organised and encouraged as a means of broadening the acquisition of knowledge. The Department plan to visit Paris as part of the study of the French Revolution.