

History Year 11 Curriculum Overview 2025-26



Year 11 Overview

In Year 11, students will continue the thematic study Britain: Health and the people, c1000-present (Paper 2 Section A). Students will look at the beginnings of change during the Renaissance; the revolution in medicine in Industrial Britain and modern medicine in Modern Britain.

Students will finish the content of the course by studying the British depth study including the historic environment, Elizabethan England, c1568-1603 (Paper 2 Section B). Students will look at Elizabeth's court and parliament; life in Elizabethan times; the troubles at home and abroad, and the historic environment. The historic environment offers an exciting opportunity, changing yearly; students can visit an Elizabethan site and answer a question on this specific site in their exams.

The final half-term is reserved for revision lessons on all four GCSE modules, with a more thematic approach allowing students to apply their content knowledge by practicing exam technique and skills.

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Week Number	Themes/ Topics	Key Knowledge & Skills	Key Assessments
<p style="text-align: center;">1-6 (Autumn 1)</p>	<p>Health and the people, c.1000-present day Part Two: The beginnings of change</p>	<p>The impact of the Renaissance on Britain: challenge to medical authority in anatomy, physiology and surgery; the work of Vesalius, Paré, William Harvey; opposition to change. Dealing with disease: traditional and new methods of treatments; quackery; methods of treating disease; plague; the growth of hospitals; changes to the training and status of surgeons and physicians; the work of John Hunter. Prevention of disease: inoculation; Edward Jenner, vaccination and opposition to change.</p>	<p>Mock 1: First World War, Germany and Britain: Health and the People full exam papers.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">7-13 (Autumn 2)</p>	<p>Part Three: A revolution in medicine</p> <p>Part Four: Modern medicine</p>	<p>The development of Germ Theory and its impact on the treatment of disease in Britain: the importance of Pasteur, Robert Koch and microbe hunting; Pasteur and vaccination; Paul Ehrlich and magic bullets; everyday medical treatments and remedies. A revolution in surgery: anaesthetics, including Simpson and chloroform; antiseptics, including Lister and carbolic acid; surgical procedures; aseptic surgery. Improvements in public health: public health problems in industrial Britain; cholera epidemics; the role of public health reformers; local and national government involvement in public health improvement, including the 1848 and 1875 Public Health Acts.</p> <p>Modern treatment of disease: the development of the pharmaceutical industry; penicillin, its discovery by Fleming, its development; new diseases and treatments, antibiotic resistance; alternative treatments. The impact of war and technology on surgery: plastic surgery; blood transfusions; X-rays; transplant surgery; modern surgical methods, including lasers, radiation therapy and keyhole surgery. Modern public health: the importance of Booth, Rowntree, and the Boer War; the Liberal social reforms; the impact of two world wars on public health, poverty and housing; the Beveridge Report and the Welfare State; creation and development of the National Health Service; costs, choices and the issues of healthcare in the 21st century.</p>	<p>Health essay.</p>

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<p>14-18 (Spring 1)</p>	<p>Elizabeth's court and Parliament</p> <p>Life in Elizabethan times</p>	<p>Elizabeth I and her court: background and character of Elizabeth I; court life, including patronage; key ministers.</p> <p>The difficulties of a female ruler: relations with Parliament; the problem of marriage and the succession; the strength of Elizabeth's authority at the end of her reign, including Essex's rebellion in 1601.</p> <p>A 'Golden Age': living standards and fashions; growing prosperity and the rise of the gentry; the Elizabethan theatre and its achievements; attitudes to the theatre.</p> <p>The poor: reasons for the increase in poverty; attitudes and responses to poverty; the reasons for government action and the seriousness of the problem.</p> <p>English sailors: Hawkins and Drake; circumnavigation 1577–1580, voyages and trade; the role of Raleigh.</p>	<p>Mock 2: First World War, Germany, Britain: Health and the People and Elizabeth full exam papers.</p>
<p>19-24 (Spring 2)</p>	<p>Troubles at home and abroad</p> <p>The historic environment of Elizabethan England</p>	<p>Religious matters: the question of religion, English Catholicism and Protestantism; the Northern Rebellion; Elizabeth's excommunication; the missionaries; Catholic plots and the threat to the Elizabethan settlement; the nature and ideas of the Puritans and Puritanism; Elizabeth and her government's responses and policies towards religious matters.</p> <p>Mary Queen of Scots: background; Elizabeth and Parliament's treatment of Mary; the challenge posed by Mary; plots; execution and its impact.</p> <p>Conflict with Spain: reasons; events; naval warfare, including tactics and technology; the defeat of the Spanish Armada.</p> <p>The study of the historic environment will focus on a particular site in its historical context and should examine the relationship between a specific place and associated historical events and developments.</p>	<p>Elizabeth historic environment essay.</p>
<p>25-30 (Summer 1)</p>		<p>Thematic revision of the First World War, Germany and Britain: Health and the People.</p>	
<p>31-38 (Summer 2)</p>		<p>GCSE Exams.</p>	