“History will be kind to me for I intend to write it.”

Winston Churchill

Where in the world would we be without history?
Why OCR GCSE History A (Schools History Project)? Let us put you in the picture.

If you’re weighing up your GCSE options at the moment, take a minute to consider just what you might gain if you choose our History A (Schools History Project). Read on and let us explain a bit more…

What’s in it for me?

History is about people – real people whose lives were sometimes exciting, like travelling across the Wild West in a wagon train, and sometimes frightening, like being transported on a ship to Australia for stealing bread. Whatever their lives were about, there are often fascinating and sometimes tragic stories behind them – and you’ll discover some of these on this intriguing course. It will also help you develop skills that are useful in a wide range of jobs or in the further study of history.

How could it help with my future?

A study of History teaches the following skills, which will be useful in most careers:

- How to interpret and evaluate pieces of information (ie sources)
- How to communicate and apply knowledge
- How to describe and analyse the key features of the period studied
- Critical thinking and problem solving.

What are some of the things I’ll learn?

On this course, you’ll look at history in a number of different ways, and also have the opportunity to investigate a local historical site, in order to put real history into context. You’ll study:

- Medicine through Time
  or
  - Crime and Punishment through Time.

You’ll also do one study in depth from the following:

- Elizabethan England
- Britain, 1815-1851
- The American West, 1840-1895
- Germany 1919-1945.

How will my work be assessed?

This GCSE has a combination of exams and controlled assessment. Controlled assessment means coursework you do in a supervised environment – which could be in your classroom or, for example, on a field trip.

You’ll have:

- A 2-hour decision-making exam based on one of the topics you’ll have studied. This is worth 45% of your total mark. Your teacher will tell you when you’ll be doing this paper.
- A 1½-hour exam based on a specified issue across the period studied over the two-year course and worth 30%.
- A controlled assessment task on either History Around Us OR Modern World History and worth 25% in total.

What grades could I get?

You could achieve any grade from A* to G, depending on how you do.

Got any more questions?

If you think this GCSE is right for you, why not have a chat with your History teacher? You could also check out the Schools History Project website at www.schoolshistoryproject.org.uk

“Fellow citizens, we cannot escape history.”

Abraham Lincoln

This information is correct at the time of going to press and only provides brief details about this GCSE.