

Westcliff High School for Girls

The History Department

We are a vibrant and committed department of specialist teachers. At present, we have 4 full time teachers and 1 part time teacher. The department has good facilities, including a suite of 3 History rooms all of which have interactive whiteboards and an Assessment for Learning toolkit. The office has a separate working area for each teacher and access to the IT network.

We have high academic expectations of our students and as a department willingly embrace new ideas and experiment with different teaching strategies as well as working very collaboratively to produce detailed schemes of work and assessments.

KS3 History is taught in two years. Year 7 study the Middle Ages from 1066-1509 and Early Modern England, 1509-1745. They end the year with a Local History unit, which is accompanied by a trip. Year 8 study Slavery, the Industrial Revolution and the Twentieth Century. They go on a trip to the Imperial War Museum at Duxford.

We are a popular department and approximately 120 students a year choose to study History for GCSE. We follow the Pearson (Edexcel) specification and cover the Cold War, 1941-91, the USA, conflict at home and abroad, 1954-75, Crime and Punishment c1000-present day and Elizabethan England. At present, we average 50 students at A-Level and they study Russia, 1917-91, Mao's China, the USA boom and bust and Lancastrians, Yorkists and Henry VII, 1399-1509, also following the Pearson (Edexcel) specification. We achieve outstanding results with 89% of our GCSE students gaining a grade 7 or above in 2018 and 100% of our A-Level students achieving grades A*- C.

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