

In the History Department we cover a huge range of stimulating topics from KS3 through to KS5. As a student of History you are guaranteed an exciting experience at Ricards Lodge High School and we continue to be an extremely popular subject choice for students at KS4 (with 75%, on average, choosing History) and beyond.

GCSE RESULTS 2015: 84% A*-C, 53% A*-A

GCE RESULTS 2015: 100% A*-B

Key Stage 3

At Key Stage Three we encourage our students to enjoy their history and engage with the discipline of History itself. All our students engage in enquiry led learning and a range of exciting topics. In Year 7 the theme followed is: Who made our country: rulers, religion or rebels? We focus on relevant periods and controversies from the Neolithic Revolution, including an analysis of the mystery of Stonehenge, to the Medieval Period. This includes the Norman Conquest, the Peasants' Revolt and the English Civil War. In Year 8 the theme that students follow is: Did Britain change the world or did the world change Britain? Here we look at important contributions Britain made to the wider world, the impacts of colonialism, slavery and immigration. In preparation for the GCSE course, in Year 9 we ask students to consider the question: 'How should we remember the 20th century?' This key question is considered through studies of The Great War, the Second World War, a modern social study on the youth of Britain from 1945 as well as the global impact of genocides such as those perpetrated under Nazi Germany and, more recently, in Rwanda.

Key Stage 4

Our GCSE course is extremely popular and offers a wide range of stimulating and relevant topics. The units studied include: 'Vietnam 1960-1975, Life in Germany c.1919-c.1945, Medicine and Treatment from the Ancient World to Present Day' and 'The Transformation of Surgery c.1845-c.1918.' These unit choices are, however, due for reconsideration as a result of the impending nation-wide changes to GCSE from September 2016.

Key Stage 5

At A Level, students study the new 2015 OCR syllabus. In Year 12 the British Period Study requirement is satisfied through a of 'England; 1547-1603, The Later Tudors'. Students also study the Non-British Period Study ('Russia 1917-1941') in Year 12. In Year 13 students are required to undertake the Topic Based Essay (a 3000-4000 word essay on a subject of the student's choosing) as well as the weightier Thematic Study & Historical Interpretations paper; 'The Middle East 1908-2011: Ottomans to Arab Spring'. These units provide the students with a broad range of highly-regarded topics that focus on advanced skills such as the use of relevant historiographical interpretations.