Netherhall School

An Ambitious, Caring Community

History Department



The History Department at Netherhall School is a highly popular and successful department, employing 3 specialist staff. The department is well resourced – each classroom is equipped with a laptop and data projector, while the department also makes use of the school's ICT rooms. The department has an extensive library of single copy resource books, as well as class set textbooks, to support a wide range of worksheets and DVDs used to support students' learning. In recent years the department has invested heavily in new GCSE and A level textbooks to ensure students are able to fully realise their potential under the new examination frameworks.

The department has a tradition of and a strong focus on differentiation, with different schemes of work and resources for each level of ability. Key Stage 3 work focuses on developing both knowledge and subject skills in Years 7 and 8, with a strong focus on the development of extended writing and literacy in general.

History has always been a very popular GCSE option between Year 9-11 and students have the opportunity to visit the battlefields of WW1 in France and Belgium during Year 10. The department follows the AQA History specification at GCSE level.

The key areas covered are:

Paper 1: Understanding the modern world

Section A

• Germany 1890-1945: Democracy and dictatorship

Section B

• Conflict and tension: The First World War, 1894-1918

Paper 2: Shaping the nation

Section A

• Britain. Health and the people c.1000 to the present day

Section B

• Elizabethan England c.1568-1603

The department consistently performs well in GCSE examinations with excellent results being obtained by both boys and girls. Many GCSE students continue their studies to A level where the department has reached a consistently high standard over the years, most notably receiving the "Good School's Guide Gold Award" for highest performing English Comprehensive School for girls taking History at AS level in 2015.

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Students follow the OCR specification at A Level:

Year 12

- Britain 1930 1997
- Germany 1919 1963

Year 13

- Rebellion and disorder under the Tudors 1485-1603
- Personal study

