

A black and white historical photograph showing a group of soldiers inside a landing craft. The soldiers are wearing helmets and military uniforms, and some are holding rifles. They are looking out towards the beach. The background shows the sea and the beach area.

**History: the right decision changes everything.**

**Did you know?**  
Over 2 million troops from over 12 countries were involved in the invasion.  
D-day was the largest naval, air and land operation in history.

Learning from the past can benefit your future. Studying GCSE History can lead to a whole host of exciting career options, including:

- Journalism
- Law
- Business
- Politics
- Archaeology
- Marketing
- Teaching.

**Don't just learn history, learn from history.**

# Why choose GCSE History?

History is continuously changing the world around us and historic events have helped to shape our society.

Studying GCSE History will help you to answer important questions such as:

- Why do wars happen?
- Why do we have a welfare system?
- How have we come to live in a multi-cultural society?

Learning about past events and the people who've influenced history will allow you to understand how the world got to the point it's at now and how it will continue to develop in the future.

You'll learn valuable skills . . .

Apart from studying a wide range of exciting historic periods, you'll learn a range of handy skills that will help you with A-levels and future work. These include:

- excellent communication and writing skills
- how to construct an argument
- research skills
- investigation and problem-solving skills
- analytical and interpretation skills.

... and useful facts

- Ever wondered why people wear poppies in November?
- Did you know that until 1928 not all women could vote?



# What will you study?

AQA GCSE History



You'll study four elements, split over two exams which are both 2 hours long and worth 50% each:

- one period study
- one thematic study
- one wider world depth study
- one British depth study including the historic environment.

# Paper 1

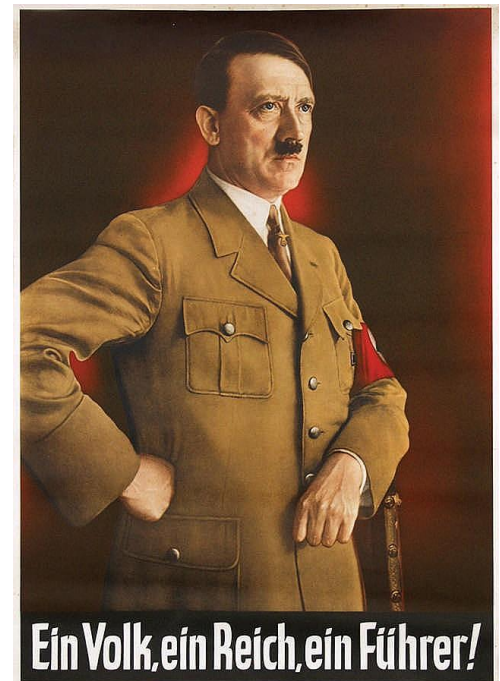
## Understanding the modern world

### Section A: Period studies

- Germany, 1890–1945: this takes us from the strange world of Kaiser Wilhelm II to the violent birth of the Weimar Republic, leading us to the dreadful consequences of the Wall Street Crash for Germany through to the rise Hitler – including his dictatorship, depravity, death and defeat.

### Section B: Wider world depth studies

- Conflict and tension, 1918–1939: we consider whether the Treaty of Versailles, signed at the end of World War One, helped to sow the roots of World War Two - including the failure of the League of Nations to stop the aggression of fascist countries in the 1930s and the road to war, looking specifically at appeasement and the unlikely alliance of Stalin and Hitler.



# Paper 2

## Shaping the Nation

For more information contact: Miss Helen Gunn, Subject Leader for History  
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### Section A: Thematic studies

- Britain, Health and the People, c.1000 – present: a look at how medicine has developed through the ages – including the hindrance of medical progress by the medieval Church, the weird and wonderful practices of medicine in the Middle Ages, the Black Death, how the Renaissance began a medical revolution and how war shaped medicine to become what it is today.

### Section B: British depth study, including the historic environment

- Norman England, 1066 – c.1100: we start by looking at the heirless Edward the Confessor and how his death sparked violent and bloody conflicts between the four claimants to the throne of England in 1066 – including the Battle of Stamford Bridge and the Battle of Hastings, followed by the bloodthirsty manner in which William the Conqueror consolidated his rule, his gruesome death and the reign of his sons.

