

Curriculum Map Year 8 History 2026

	Topic	Key Knowledge <i>What will students know by the end of this topic?</i>	Key Skills <i>What skills will students have developed by the end of this topic?</i>	Assessment Opportunities <i>How will student progress be measured? What are the key assessment pieces?</i>
Half Term 1	Why did Henry VIII break from Rome? Was Elizabethan England a “Golden Age”?	Henry’s issue of succession and divorce Roles of Katherine of Aragon and Anne Boleyn Reformation, differences between Catholic and Protestant Churches Dissolution of the monasteries- causes and process Comparison to the reign of Mary I. Different aspects of life in Elizabethan England addressing enquiry question: religious settlement, threats to her security (MQS and Armada), exploration, poverty and theatre	Causation: break from Rome Comprehension of interpretations: understanding what historian Eric Ives argues about Anne Boleyn’s role. Source skills: source analysis, explanation of difference and reasons for difference. Significance and impact	Break from Rome assessment Elizabethan Golden Age assessment
Half Term 2	How useful are portraits in studying the power of the Tudors? How did the power of the monarchy change in the 17th century?	Recap and consolidation of reigns of Henry VIII Meaning of use of symbols in portraits Assessment of the changing role of monarchy and parliament, analysing the reigns of James I, Charles I, Cromwell, the Restoration and Glorious Revolution.	Details and inferences from sources; developing inference by using contextual knowledge Introduction to source utility Change: extent and pace of change	Portraits source assessment Changing power of the monarchy- change essay
Half Term 3	The transatlantic slave trade	Early empire: different groups in the New World by 1600 Bacon’s Rebellion and its impact on attitudes towards race The ‘triangular trade’ and its impact	Use of sources: ‘Am I Not a Man and a Brother’ Wedgwood image. Basic source utility.	Transatlantic slave trade assessment

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		The Middle Passage and life on a plantation in the New World		
Half Term 4	How should we remember the British Empire?	Overview of rise and fall of Empire Reasons for growth of Empire using East India Company as case study Differing experiences of Empire in India- experiences of the rulers and ruled Comparison with Australia and impact of colonisation in indigenous people	Conceptual focus: causation and similarity/difference Sources: e.g. Governor Davey's proclamation to the Aborigines	Empire assessment
Half Term 5	The Age of Revolution	The American Revolution: causes, course and development Role of key founding fathers and how far they meet the idea of what a revolutionary was French Revolution: causes and development, comparison to USA Haitian Revolution: causes and development, links to other revolutions Peterloo: events of August 1819 and British attitudes to revolution	Similarity and difference: comparison of different revolutions and differing attitudes to revolution	Age of Revolutions Assessment
Half Term 6	How was modern Britain made in the 19 th century?	Main social and economic changes in Britain between 1750-1900 Reasons for industrial growth Case study of Quarry Bank Mill- why successful Social conditions in mid Victorian towns and cities	Interpretations: Use of Peterloo graphic novel to understand how historians construct a narrative Interpretations: use of 2012 Olympics opening ceremony presentation of industrial revolution Sources: difficulties of source material relating to child labour	Industrial Revolution assessment