



President
Kennedy
School
Building Brighter Futures



History

The history staff at Barr's Hill School are all specialists in their fields of study including topics such as South Africa and the fight for freedom, the British Political system, Reaganomics and American Civil Rights. They will support you on every step of your Post-16 journey to ensure you achieve the greatest academic success possible. This support will come in the form of one-to-one support in and out of lessons, organizational skills, revision sessions and phone calls. Over the course of two years not only will you build your in-depth historical knowledge across a range of topics, but you will also develop expert skills of time management, organization, analysis and argument. These skills will give you a strong foundation as a historian and academic writer and go on to support your future studies or employment.

Entry Requirements

In order to succeed at A Level history, you need a good level of literacy, a fascination with the world around you and a willingness to read and ask questions.

Topics covered

There are four modules as part of the A Level. Three compulsory exam units and one coursework unit. In Year 12 you will study The American Dream: The USA 1919-1980 and South Africa 1994. In Year 13 you will study Britain 1780 – 1928 a political history and you will choose a coursework module.

Skills you will develop on the course

You will develop many skills of the expert history, and these skills will hold you in good stead for future study in a wide range of subjects. You will learn how to access and read detailed text, develop effective skills of argument both orally and written. Further you will learn how to research and develop your own hypotheses alongside being able to analyse sources in detail to put them in context.

Assessment

Assessment is as follows:

- The American Dream – written exam 30%
- South Africa – written exam 20%
- Britain – written exam 30%
- Coursework – under controlled conditions 20%

Educational trips, visits and wider experiences

Opportunities:

We will have a visiting Professor speak to the group on Victorian Sexual Activity. This will give pupils an insight into study at University level. A range of essay writing competitions will be offered for pupils who want to challenge themselves and enhance their UCAS personal statements. Each year a select number of pupils will have the opportunity to visit Auschwitz and complete a range of in-depth Holocaust studies.

What type of students will do well on this course?

A student with a passion and enthusiasm for history and a willingness to work hard. You will also need to be organized and collaborative if necessary.

For more information contact:

To find out more please speak to any of the teachers in the history department.

Miss Wilcox - wilcox.A@barrshill.coventry.sch.uk

Mrs Martin - martin.e@barrshill.coventry.sch.uk

Miss Phillips - phillips.c@barrshill.coventry.sch.uk

Mr Mahon - mahon.s@barrshill.coventry.sch.uk

Post-School Progression Opportunities

University	Entry requirements	Other similar courses offered
University of Cambridge History BA(Hons)	A*AA inc A Level History	History and Politics History and Modern Languages History of Art
University of St.Andrews Modern History MA (Hons)	AAA inc History A Level	Medieval History Middle East Studies Ancient History Medieval History and Archaeology
Royal Holloway University of London Ancient History BA (Hons)	BBB-ABB	History and Philosophy Modern Languages and History Classical Archaeology and Ancient History History
University of Bristol History BA (Hons)	AAA-ABB including History	English and History History with Languages Ancient History History with Innovation
Manchester Metropolitan University History BA(Hons)	BBC-BCC	History and Politics English and History History and International Relations Art History and Curating

Career Opportunities

Historian

What would I do?

- Present historical accounts in terms of individuals or social, ethnic, political, economic, or geographic groupings.
- Teach and conduct research in colleges, universities, museums, and other research agencies and schools.
- Interview people to gather information about historical events and to record oral histories.
- Organize information for publication and for other means of dissemination, such as use in CD-ROMs or Internet sites.
- Trace historical development in a particular field, such as social, cultural, political, or diplomatic history.
- Conduct historical research, and publish or present findings and theories.
- Research and prepare manuscripts in support of public programming and the development of exhibits at historic sites, museums, libraries, and archives.
- Conserve and preserve manuscripts, records, and other artifacts.
- Collect detailed information on individuals for use in biographies.
- Organize data, and analyze and interpret its authenticity and relative significance.

UK average: £32,296

Routes in: A large majority of historians combine teaching, writing and research at colleges and universities. You can also work as consultant in various domains.

Solicitor

What would I do?

- providing legal services like conveyancing, probate, civil and family law, litigation, personal injury and criminal law
- advising businesses and corporate clients in areas like contract law, tax, employment law and company sales and mergers
- advising on insurance, patents, shipping, banking, the media or entertainment
- providing advice in areas like education, planning and social services
- advising government ministers
- prosecuting people who break rules
- advising and representing clients in court
- instructing barristers or advocates to act for clients
- drafting confidential letters and contracts
- researching legal records and case law
- attending meetings and negotiations
- managing finances and preparing papers for court
- using plain English to explaining complex legal matters to clients
- keeping up to date with changes in the law

UK average: £43,194

Routes in: Bachelor degree in Law.

Archivist

What would I do?

- storing materials correctly and keeping them in good condition
- identifying, dating, cataloguing and indexing archive materials
- helping people use the archives
- making records available to users in formats such as photocopies, microfiche and online
- carrying out research
- giving talks and organising presentations, displays and exhibitions
- negotiating the buying or donation of archive material

UK average: £26,433

Routes in: With experience, you could work with larger and more prestigious organisations, like national archives and museums, businesses, church foundations and charities.