



# St Benedict's Catholic School

*The Catholic Secondary School for West Suffolk*

## HISTORY CURRICULUM GUIDE

### Year 7 Autumn

Students will study two topics in the autumn term: The Roman Empire and Roman Britain. Lessons will be structured around enquiry questions.

What is History?  
Chronology  
Historical Enquiry  
Interpretations

#### **Roman Empire:**

Who were Romulus and Remus?  
What was the Roman Empire?  
How was the Roman army organised?  
How was Rome governed?  
Who were the most famous/infamous Roman emperors?  
Why did the Roman Empire fall?

**Assessment:** essay question 'Why was the Roman army so successful?'

#### **Roman Britain**

Why did the Romans invade Britain?  
Why did Caesar's invasion fail?  
Julius Caesar: Hero or Villain?  
Why was Caesar murdered?  
Who was Boudicca and why was she important?  
Why was Hadrian's Wall built?

**Homework:** Students can expect to be set one piece of homework per week which may involve research, reading or writing.

**Assessment:** Life in Roman Times: Did people love or hate living in Roman Britain?

### Year 7 Spring

Students will study two topics in the spring term: The Native Americans and Medieval Realms. Lessons will be structured around enquiry questions.

## Medieval Realms

What were the Middle Ages really like?  
What was England like before 1066?  
Who were the contenders for the throne in 1066?  
What happened at the Battle of Stamford Bridge?  
What happened at the Battle of Hastings?  
Why did William win?

**Assessment:** Essay - Why did William win the Battle of Hastings?

**Homework:** Students can expect to be set one piece of homework per week which may involve research, reading or writing.

## Year 7 Summer

Students will cover two units of work during the summer term on Medieval Realms.

What problems did William face and what were his solutions?  
What was the feudal system and how did it work?  
Why was Thomas Becket murdered?  
What qualities were needed to make a successful medieval monarch?  
How and why has the reign of King John been interpreted in different ways?  
What was Magna Carta and why is it significant?

**Assessment:** Essay – Was King John really a ‘bad king’?

## Castles and Life in the Middle Ages

Why did the Normans build castles and how did they develop?  
What was life like in a Medieval village?  
Why was the Church so important to people in the Middle Ages?  
What was the Black Death?  
What were the consequences of the Black Death?

**Assessment:** Assessment on castles

NB: There will be a field trip to Framlingham Castle in the summer term.

**Homework:** Students can expect to be set one piece of homework per week which may involve research, reading or writing.