

Linked Thematic Topics

Y7:
Change & resilience
Power
Diversity & Empathy
Freedom



Y8:
Social & Moral chaos
Dreams & Aspirations
Dystopia & injustice
Struggles

Y9:
Crime & injustice
Tolerance & extremism
Relationships & tensions
Environmental challenges



Ambitious texts & Vocabulary

Each lesson has a key word focus, with subject specific vocabulary being taught and revisited. We also encourage pupils to 'write like an historian' using key terminology such as analyse or evaluate. For each block of learning, pupils are encouraged to read widely to support their learning, with texts and articles. This includes recent scholarship from respected historians. We have a physical and a virtual pupil library to support this.



Oracy & resilience

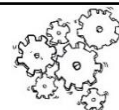
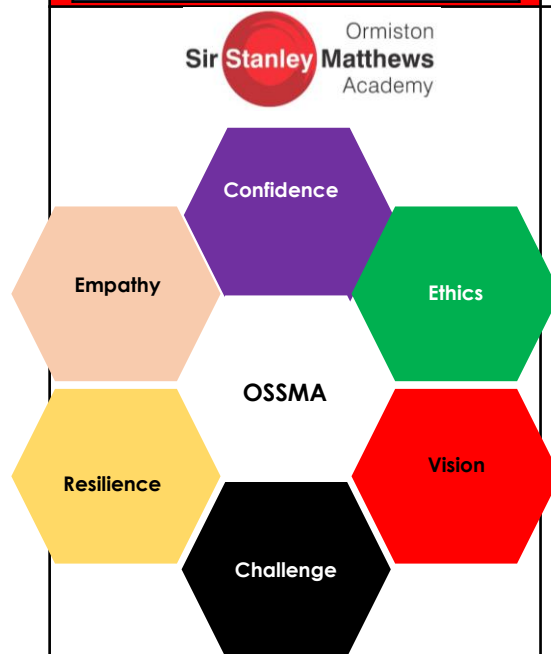
Every lesson allows a chance for pupils to express their opinion and their knowledge through oracy activities. These are through 'lead learner' starters, OSSMA historian plenaries, and throughout the lesson. We complete oracy assessments where pupils have the opportunity to debate or speak in role. This also helps build resilience. Pupils are also invited to participate in History assemblies.



Support and guidance

In every lesson pupils are supported to help them access and engage with the learning. Teachers work closely with LSAs, where appropriate. We use differentiated approaches to extended writing tasks, as well as model structures, such as 'STOP and think' to embed source skills. Teachers offer extra revision sessions as well as bespoke intervention. Use of Google Classroom also allows for recap of content to support all pupils.

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Sequencing & Connectivity

Most learning at KS3 is in chronological order, as understanding events in the order they occurred is crucial. In some blocks pupils study a theme through time, to help with their conceptual understanding. At KS4 pupils cover both breadth and depth studies, again taught largely chronologically. Pupils constantly recap prior learning in lessons, through quizzing and through extended writing.



Relevance and enrichment

Local history is included in each key stage, where links exist, to enable pupils to recognize that History is everywhere. For example, Wedgwood's role in the abolition of slavery. Extra-curricular opportunities are also available in each year group, both through visitors into school and through our ever popular educational visits, with new visits planned such as Berlin. Experiencing History outside of the classroom adds an extra level of understanding to create outstanding OSSMA historians.



Stretch and challenge

Every lesson provides pupils with opportunities to extend their knowledge and understanding, through challenge. At KS3 we also use extra research challenges, 'Meanwhile Elsewhere,' to add another layer of historical awareness. Pupils are guided towards extra resources that will enrich their learning. There is a Band 4 Challenge weekly activity for KS4.