Spiritual development in History

The study of History involves understanding the religious and spiritual beliefs of different societies and their customs. Students learn about how important those beliefs are to different people, and how these beliefs have been shaped through History. For example, in Year 7 students study the importance of religion during the Middle Ages. Spiritual and religious persecution throughout History is also explored in KS3 and KS4. Events such as the Religious Crusades, the Reformation, and the Holocaust are studied in depth, which help students develop vital knowledge on acceptance and the harmful consequences of intolerance.

Moral development in History

Students are encouraged to consider and comment on the moral questions and dilemmas faced by historical figures. They learn about the different cultures, laws and the values of the people in those societies and learn to develop the ability to empathise with decisions made in the past. Students are encouraged to make moral judgements from a historical point of view and analyse sources of evidence to find out the truth. Debates are encouraged on moral and ethical issues such as the role of Douglas Haig in World War One, or whether America was right to drop the Atomic Bomb to end World War Two. However, significant moral issues are investigated in depth throughout the curriculum and arguments explored on topics such as the Norman Conquest in Year 7 and the Suffragettes, and Slavery in Year 8.

Social development in History

A variety of activities are utilised within History lessons to promote the social development of students. Students are encouraged to work collaboratively in many lessons to solve problems and find solutions together. History provides students with opportunities to express themselves and communicate their ideas, which are explored in a safe setting within the classroom. Students are taught how to provide constructive feedback to each other and how to respond to this feedback in a way that encourages development. Through activities, such as low stakes quizzing, students are taught how to respond when something does not go as planned, which encourages a growth mindset. Many opportunities are provided after assessments for students to reflect and improve on their attempts, building resilience and perseverance.

Cultural development in History

Students are encouraged to develop a better understanding of people from different cultural backgrounds. They are encouraged to study links between local, British, European and World History to develop an appreciation of our multi-cultural society. Ways in which events have shaped our culture and society are explored and the causes and consequences of cultural conflict and prejudice considered. At the start of Year 7 students study key aspects of Anglo Saxon culture and how this rapidly transformed following the Norman Conquest, students proceed to explore the impact of the Renaissance on England and whether the cultural, societal and political advances of the Elizabethan period can be deemed as a 'Golden Age'. The focus on cultural development through History and its impact on our present-day culture continues throughout all year groups, such as the historic study on Hull in Year 8, and the establishment of the NHS at GCSE. The History curriculum ensures that students sufficiently develop a cultural awareness of not only the community they live in, but the world they are citizens off.