



Welcome

History is the study of events that have happened in the past. The study of history helps make sense of our world. It also helps us to understand the things that happen today and that may happen in the future. When you walk into a history classroom you will become a historian; using a variety of evidence, such as photographs, diaries, letters, and newspaper articles, to learn all about the past.

What will I study?

In Year 7, your lessons will focus mainly on English history through the investigation of 4 themes: 'Life, Work and Religion', 'Health and Medicine', 'Power and Control' and 'War and Conflict'. We will study:

- **The Norman Invasion** – This topic will look at the last time that England was 'invaded'. We will find out what England was like under the Anglo Saxons, what happened to cause the invasion and how William the Duke of Normandy managed to control England after he won the Battle of Hastings and became King William I.
- **Life in the Middle Ages** – In this topic we will find out about all aspects of life in England from 1066-1485. We will look at events such as the Black Death, the 100 Years War, the Crusades and the death of Thomas Becket to help us to understand what it would have been like to have lived in the Middle Ages.
- **The Tudors** – In this topic we will focus on some of the most famous kings and queens in English History like Henry 8th, 'Bloody' Mary I and Elizabeth I. We will find out what made them so famous as well as how the lives of ordinary people might have been affected by them.
- **The Stuarts** – In this topic we will look at how the power of the kings of England was challenged, first by the Gunpowder Plot and then by a Civil War which helped to change England forever.

Throughout our Year 7 curriculum we will be charting the rise and fall of Pontefract Castle through its involvement in some key events in British History, from being built by one of William I's supporters to its destruction during the English Civil War.

Will I need any special equipment?

No - if you have your basic King's School equipment you will be fine!

Activity for you to try

Below are some activities that you might want to do to prepare for coming to The King's School in September – choose which one(s) you



- **Task 1** – Produce a timeline of 10 key events that have happened during your lifetime. These could either be events that happened to you or important world events that have happened whilst you have been alive (e.g. the outbreak of Corona Virus).
- **Task 2** – Find out about a historical event that happened on the same day you were born (not necessarily in the year that you were born).
- **Task 3** – Try to begin your family tree by speaking to members of your family about the names and dates of birth of their parents, grandparents and great-grandparents – See how far back you can go.