

Ancient History Options Booklet

Course Information - Qualification GCSE Awarding body - OCR

“When Alexander saw the breadth of his domain, he wept, for there were no more worlds to conquer’. Benefits of a classical education.”

Not a real ancient historical quote, but a line from the movie Die Hard. The benefits of a classical education however, is so much more than just the ability to rob Nakatomi Plaza. The ancient world is not some long lost place, dead to history and devoid of meaning. It is vividly alive with exceptional figures of history: Xerxes, Leonidas, Alexander the Great, Julius Caesar and Cleopatra; all stride across the pages of ancient history, their great deeds still resonating and shaping the world today.

Our course builds upon our work in Key Stage 3 to deliver a GCSE to equip students with a range of relevant skills for their chosen career path and an understanding of the influence of the ancient world on the modern one around them.

In Year 10 we will be studying:

- The Persian Empire 559 - 465 BC
- Alexander the Great 356 - 323 BC

In Year 11 we will be studying:

- The foundations of Rome : from kingship to republic 753 - 440 BC
- Cleopatra : Rome and Egypt 69 - 30 BC

The course will enable students to develop a range of key transferable skills for their future careers or education.

- In the modern world of fake news, students will develop analytical skills, become confident in handling information and assessing its usefulness and validity.
- They will develop the skill of the creation of supported judgements based on precise selection and deployment of evidence. This skill is highly valued in further education and future careers alike, showing an ability to formulate and present arguments.
- Studying GCSE Ancient History, students become culturally aware and develop their understanding of the ancient world and its legacy in today’s society.
- Through collaboration with others, they become extremely effective communicators, in both verbal and written form.

Assessment - 100% examination. This will take the form of two papers.