



West Hill School History Department

A Parent's Guide to GCSE History

The History team at West Hill School greatly value and understand the importance of parental support in helping pupils achieve their potential. We'd like to thank you for everything you have done so far to help secure your son's achievement in GCSE History

However, we understand that quite often you would still like to do more and offer your son more support. This guide is intended to help you in that aim. We have organised it into a FAQ format to help you identify the best support.

What History specification is my son sitting?

Edexcel 1HI0 9-1 Specification

What History exams will my son take?

Your son will sit 3 papers.

Paper 1- Medicine through Time	Paper 2: Early Elizabethan England 1558-88 & Superpower Relations 1941-91	Paper 3: Germany 1918-39
1hr 15 mins 52 marks (Inc. 4 marks SPAG). 30% of GCSE	1hr 45 mins 64 marks (Inc. 4 marks SPAG). 40% of GCSE	Written exam: 1 hour 20 mins 52 marks (Inc. 4 marks for SPAG) 30% of GCSE
What's assessed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical knowledge and understanding. • The ability to explain and analyse historical events and periods. • The ability to analyse, evaluate and make substantiated judgements about sources and interpretations. 	What's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical knowledge and understanding. • The ability to explain and analyse historical events and periods. 	What's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical knowledge and understanding. • The ability to explain and analyse historical events and periods. • The ability to analyse, evaluate and make substantiated judgements about sources and interpretations in the context of Germany 1918-45

What revision aids are available to my son?

- The most vital revision tool is your son's folder. Please encourage him to use his folder as part of structured revision – these have valuable named examples, case-studies and teacher feedback that is not available to them through the external revision material.
- CGP revision guides are available for **£3.25** if you would like to purchase a copy.
- The PiXL app. There are some excellent quizzes and mini tests.
- PiXL Independence resources on the School's VLE.
- The new BBC Bitesize History website has some excellent videos, images and revision notes.

What can I do at home with my son to support his achievement?

We understand and really appreciate that you want to help your son achieve in all his GCSEs and that often ways to support him effectively are not always clear. Below are suggestions of ideas that will help your son achieve his aspirational target in History. The list is not exhaustive and not meant as a checklist, but as inspiration.

- Check your son has completed History homework fully. The vast majority of homework are revision tasks such as key terms lists and pre-reading activities. The purpose of these is to revise past topics along the way and to reduce exam pressure at the end of year 11.
- Use the revision quizzes in the CGP revision guide. Encourage your son to complete all the quizzes and ask him about them.
- Insist your son always writes with excellent spelling, punctuation and grammar – these marks account for 5% of his final exam result. Please be aware that the use of specialist terms is also assessed in these marks e.g. '*physicians*' instead of doctors
- Know what's assessed in each paper and help your son organise his revision timetable.
- Encourage him to download, log on and use the PiXL History app.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and please do not hesitate to contact us should you or your son have any concerns about History

Mrs. Anderton

Mrs. Weeden

Mrs. Whiting

Mrs. Wood