

The History Department at Torquay Girls Grammar School

History at TGGGS is a popular choice both at GCSE and A Level, having grown over the past few years to reach consistently high numbers of 80+ at GCSE and 30+ at A Level. It is an established department in the school, with a committed and experienced group of staff.

Results have improved in recent years with the department boasting high attainment at both GCSE and A Level standard. In 2016 72% of students achieved A/A* grades at GCSE. Students also perform exceptionally well at A level, with 86% achieving A*-B grades in 2016, exceeding the school target. A significant number of students go on to pursue History and History related courses at university, emphasising the popularity of the subject and ongoing enjoyment of lessons at A Level.

The GCSE course we follow is the EDEXCEL specification, with units on Medicine in Britain c1250 – present, Superpower relations and the Cold War, Germany 1918-1939, and Early Elizabethan England 1558-88. At A level we follow the AQA specification, with units on Tsarist and Communist Russia 1855-1965, The making of Modern Britain 1951-2007 and a coursework unit on Tudor Rebellion. It is vital that the successful applicant is able to teach History up to A level. The department prides itself on its teaching and learning and focus on examination technique and student feedback. It is thus expected that the new member of department will be able to contribute to the Assessment for Learning and general teaching strategies the department offers. Being up to date with curriculum developments is also a desirable trait for the successful candidate to have, especially given the recent changes to both A Level and GCSE.

The department likes to offer students a wide variety of opportunities, both in school and beyond. We currently run a World War Two Day for Year 9, and trips ranging from exam workshops (such as 'Hitler on Trial') and educational visits to London and New York (alongside the Art and Drama departments). We are always keen to extend the variety of trips and experiences we can offer to our students, currently we are exploring a visit to the trenches on the Western Front to support our GCSE Medicine unit.

The department promotes the sharing of ideas and resources and is well equipped with technology, having our own set of laptops and an excellent range of books and teaching materials. The successful candidate would be expected to contribute to these resources and to keeping them up to date. We also have links with other schools in the local area and within the SWAT group, and are keen to share resources where possible.