

EMMANUEL COLLEGE  
THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT  
Philosophical Statement



“Our curriculum aims to give our students an understanding of their own historical context as British and world citizens. Through studying history at Emmanuel, we want our students to gain a coherent and chronological understanding of the past which can enable them to appreciate their own local identity and heritage as well as national and international developments over time that have shaped the world in which they live.

It is our intent that through the curriculum, our students will understand that history is a constructed narrative, which can differ from place to place and be contested over time, but also understand that within this one can strive for truth and identify falsehood through gaining knowledge and interrogating sources. By studying the complexities of historical evidence and differing interpretations, we want our students to interrogate the reliability of information and be rigorous at investigating the validity of claims in history. By empowering our students with the ability to formulate convincing arguments and justify their own opinions based on their investigations, students will be well equipped with the analytical skills of a historian which will give them the ability to thrive in the modern world beyond Emmanuel.

Finally, we strive for a curriculum which is not only informative, but also inspiring and encourages our students to grapple with an understanding that the past is far deeper and goes beyond solely factual knowledge. Our curriculum at Emmanuel not only charts the development of the pillars of British society, but also embeds an appreciation of the struggles those in the past have overcome in order to make the world a more positive place. This enables them to develop their social awareness of how the past continues to shape the future, as well as their moral awareness of the impact their own actions can have on those around them.

Most of all, we want our history curriculum at Emmanuel to instil within our students an intellectual curiosity and love of the subject, as in history we see ourselves, we strive to learn from the successes and failures of the past whilst accepting that often through the study of past we are left with more questions than answers.”