

Jonathan Heyes – History



Jonathan explains that every decision he makes has the pupil in the foreground and the impact on their learning and well-being. As a subject leader every decision he has made regarding changes to the curriculum have been done after seeking, through pupil voice, the opinions of the pupils.

History at St. James's has had success in the 8 years that Jonathan has been in post.

- GCSE numbers have risen from 38 in 2006-2007 to 108 in 2014-2015
- KS3 History has continued to improve with 2015 being the best results ever achieved: A*-A at 41.3%, 3 Levels of Progress at 75%, 4 LoP at 56 % and 5 LoP at 19%
- KS3 History has continued to improve and be amongst the highest achieving KS3 departments in the school.
- Jonathan has led both collaborative working parties and Family 3 groups.
- Jonathan has been asked on a number of occasions to lead the CPD sessions to Heads of department, initially to outline recording and data tracking procedures in History.

History continues to be one of the most popular and successful subjects at St James's as evidenced in pupil option numbers, pupil voice and feedback at Parents' Evenings.

Jonathan has also been fortunate enough to work for AQA for the past 10 years in marking GCSE exams. In 2007 he was promoted to the position of Senior Examiner for Paper 1 (team leader), which gives him accountability for 6-7 examiners. This has given him a real specialist insight into the nature of exam teaching which has been cascaded to all members of the department. This year, Jonathan is also a senior Controlled Assessment moderator.

Liaising with peers to co-ordinate pathways to improvement and sustainability of all pupils' education is a big motivation. Jonathan is excited by the prospect of facilitating teachers/departments/schools in raising standards and narrowing the gap between schools. In the last year, Jonathan has been successful in this regard carrying out school to school support work in the local area.