

# AQA – A Level History



The specification at a glance;

- Component 1 – Breadth Study (The Tudors 1485-1603) - **40% of final grade**
- Component 2 – Depth Study (Revolution and Dictatorship; Russia 1917 – 1953) - **40% of final grade**
- Component 3 – Historical Investigation (Personal Study – Antisemitism across Western and Central Europe, 1848-1945) - **20% of final grade**

## Students must;

- study the history of more than one country
- study a British history option for Component 1 or 2
- study a non-British history option for Component 1 or 2
- study topics from a chronological range of at least 200 years

# Year 12 – Breadth Study

*Change, continuity, cause and consequence*

- **Title: 1C The Tudors:  
England, 1485–1603**

Decisive battles



Contested  
thrones

Powerful Women



Paranoid monarchs

## A-level History

### Why are you studying a topic on the Tudors?

Despite living 500 years ago, the Tudor world has much in common with our own.

Seismic events such as Brexit, Britain's leaving of the European Union in 2020, bear more than a passing resemblance to the actions of King Henry VIII. Back then there were also debates about sovereignty (whether a multi-national organisation has the right to make and enforce laws in a country) and who is really in charge.

The breaking away of England from the Catholic Church led to the creation of the protestant Church of England, keen to influence lands overseas with the creation of an empire and to encourage capitalism (the creation of individual wealth). Even the group who flourished under the Tudors, the gentry or gentlemen class, became the people who dominate our politics today (the middle class).

In this topic you'll explore Tudor history from the difficult beginnings of a man who shouldn't have been King, Henry VII, to the so-called 'Golden Age' of Queen Elizabeth I. **You'll realise how much the early modern world of the Tudors has shaped our thinking today.**

# 1534

*the original*

# BREXIT



# What are the key questions?

Some examples are given below...



How did relations with foreign powers change and how was the succession secured?  
e.g. what led to rivalry and conflict with Spain and France?



In what ways and how effectively was England governed during this period?

e.g. why and how did Tudor changes lead to the world we live in today?



How important was the role of key individuals and groups and how were they affected by developments?

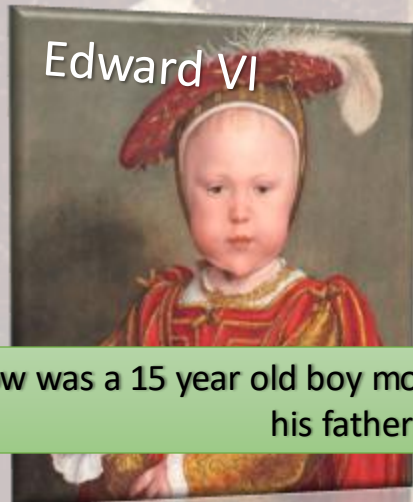
e.g. why did heads start to 'roll' during Henry VIII's reign?



How far did intellectual and religious ideas change and develop and with what effects?  
e.g. why did people start questioning the Pope and the Catholic Church at this time?

# How do I continue with this in year 13?

- Once you've mastered the skills and content of year 12, the Tudor topic extends in time...
- You will study the rollercoaster ride that is Tudor monarchy, for example...



How was a 15 year old boy more revolutionary than his father?



What's the truth behind the title 'Bloody Mary'?



How did a queen defy the world's greatest empire?

# Year 12 – Depth Study

*Change, continuity, cause and consequence*

- **Title:** 2N Revolution and Dictatorship; Russia 1917 – 1953



**A murdered  
Royal family!**

**A nation torn in two**

**Bloody Revolutions!**



**The rise of Stalin!**

## A- level History

### Why are you studying a topic on Russia?

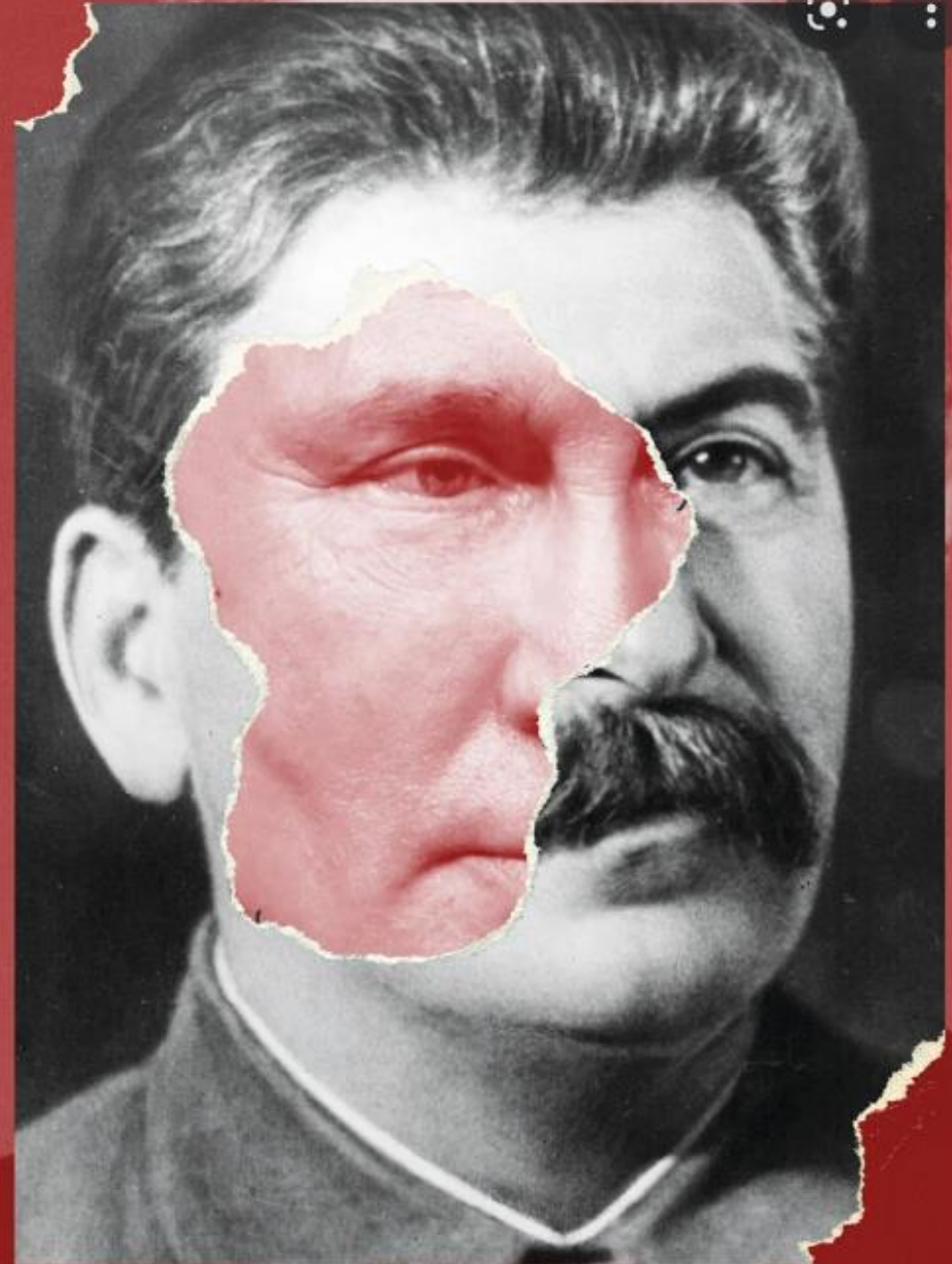
Recent events in Ukraine have brought Russia (or the Russian Federation as they'd like to be known) back onto the world stage.

For many years since the downfall of communism and the ending of the Soviet Union in 1991 Russia had slowly regained the trust of many western world powers (inc the USA)

All this has changed once again, Vladimir Putin's actions in invading Ukraine in February 2022 has pitted Russia against the Western world once again.

In this topic you'll explore Russian / Soviet History from the communist revolution in 1917 to the death of Soviet dictator Stalin in 1953.

You will examine many aspects that sadly share a common theme with how life in Russia is returning to once again. **This will hopefully aid you in understanding the modern world by exploring what has gone before.**



# What are the key questions?

Some examples are given below...



Why did the Tsar feel the need to abdicate his throne in 1917?  
e.g – **What were the causes and the consequences of the 1917 Revolutions?**



Why did the Communists deem it necessary to murder the entire Romanov royal family?  
e.g. – **How were new political beliefs shaping Russia at this time?**



How was Joseph Stalin able to win the power struggle after the success of the Revolution?  
e.g. **Battles between various personalities to win ultimate control of Russia and its people.**

*What was the outcome for those who lost the battle for power with Stalin?*  
e.g – **political purges and the consequences of living under a dictatorship.**

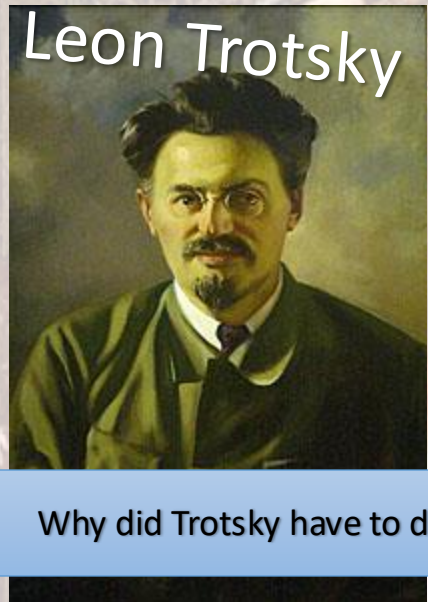


# How do I continue with this in year 13?

- Once you've mastered the skills and content of year 12, the Tudor topic extends in time...
- You will study the nightmare situation that was 'Stalin's Rule', for example...



How did millions face starvation when Stalin lived in such splendour?



Why did Trotsky have to die?



Why did Stalin sacrifice so many in order to defeat the Nazis during World War Two