



Scheme of Learning	Topic: Ancient Mesopotamia
Learning outcomes	Students will learn about what it means to be a historian. They will be able to: • Arrange events in chronological order. • Understand how historians use evidence to make inferences about the past. • Understand the difference between primary and secondary sources. • Question the reliability and usefulness of evidence. • Construct their own historical enquiry.
Key Question	• What does a historian do? • How is time organised in history? • How do historians determine the reliability of evidence? • What is the significance of Ancient Mesopotamia?
Knowledge	• Students investigate what it means to be a historian through a study of Ancient Mesopotamia. They will understand the significance of Mesopotamia as the first example of human civilisation. • This should include an understanding of the Mesopotamians' use of irrigation and farming techniques that allowed for the creation of settlements in the areas. • Students will learn that the Mesopotamians devised ways for writing and recording events and had built devices that enabled them to tell the time. • Students will investigate the life of Sargon or Akkad and understand his significance.
Ongoing Assessment	• Throughout the series of lessons teachers have a list of multiple choice and longer answer questions which are intended to draw out the key misconceptions associated with the unit. At the end of the unit, students will be expected to complete the 'pulling the threads' together activity which will assess how well students have understood the key content.
Key Assessment	• At the end of the unit students will write a short answer to an enquiry question on life in Ancient Mesopotamia.
Clear sequencing of content	• This unit is placed at the start of year 7 so that students can pick up the basic skills they will need to access the history curriculum. As our history curriculum works chronologically we have opted for a study of the first human civilisation as the first topic to be taught.
Diversity and Inclusion	• Teaching about Ancient Mesopotamia allows us to demonstrate the breadth of global human history and to examine history outside of a European context.
Additional Support	• The booklet contains knowledge organisers, key vocabulary etc. All resources are uploaded to the SharePoint.
Challenge	• This introductory unit introduces students to several new ideas and concepts such as chronology, inference, reliability and enquiry questions. Students are given support throughout this unit so that they can use these skills confidently across their Key Stage 3 journey.

