



Developing Passionate Historians

Delivering creative and engaging lessons

Miss V Stevens



Creating an inspiring department

Make time for each other, get to know each other as people not just colleagues. It creates trust and security and therefore a willingness to create.

Reflection and development
(Best practice sessions)

Get excited about teaching, get excited about History.

How do I approach getting the best out of my department, so that the students get the best out of their lessons?

If you are able selection of staff is key, trying to work towards good cohesion and a shared vision makes you want to work for each other.

Set yourself up as an example

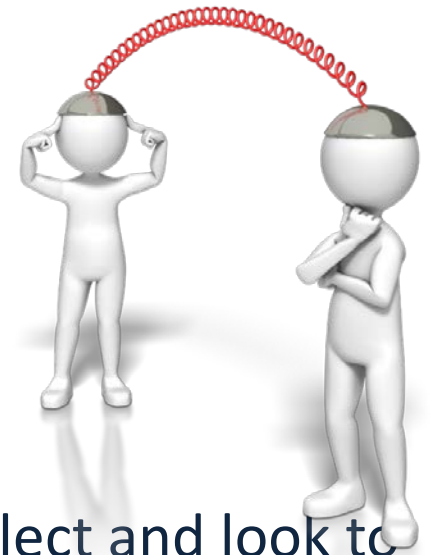
- Observations
- Work rate
- Enthusiasm
- Commitment
- Creativity
- Willingness to try new things even if they don't work.

If you take over an existing group of staff members then involve them in SOW planning, maybe utilise their strengths and ask them to design a new unit as they are a specialist.

Clear, shared vision

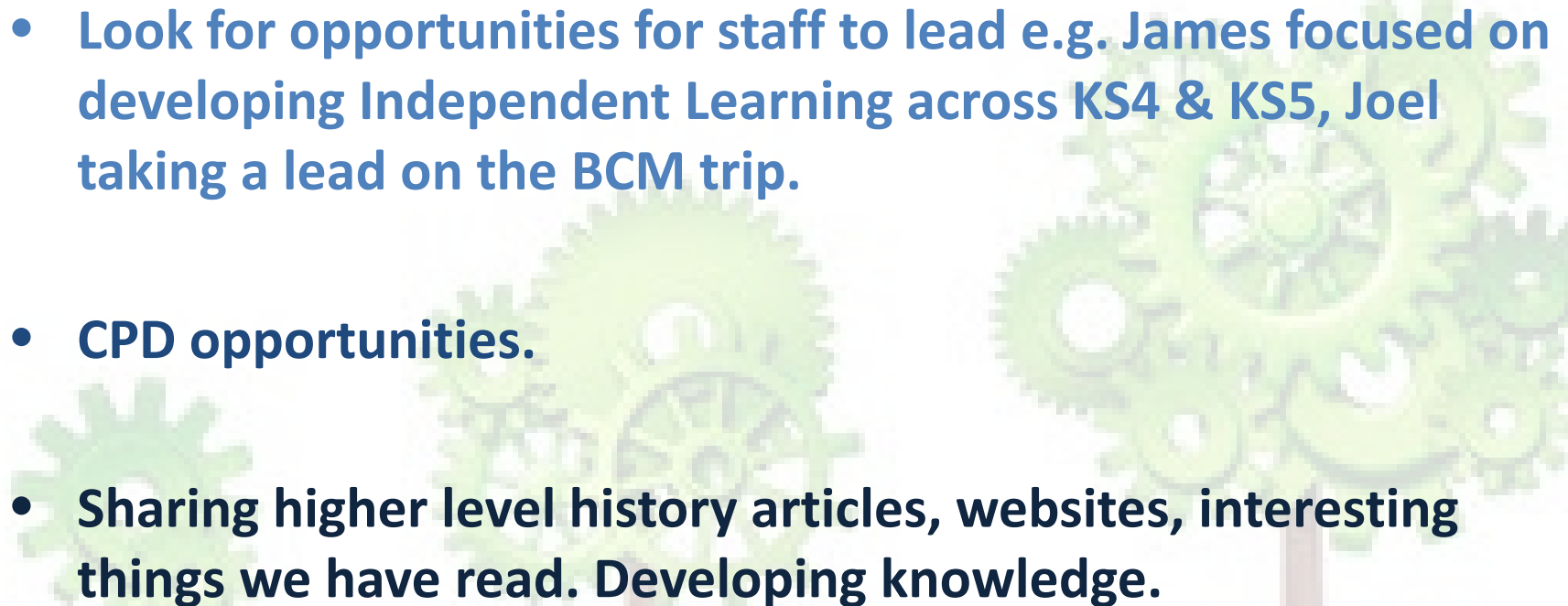
In order to deliver creative and engaging lessons the vision of all teachers in the department must be shared.

- The DIP should be a joint effort = ownership & responsibility over the kind of lessons delivered.
- Review the DIP twice in the academic year = don't be afraid to question if you are doing what you aimed for. If not change it up.
- At the end of each academic year we have a department planning day away from school to reflect and look to the future...this leaves part of the summer to develop new creative and engaging lessons.



Staff growth

To teach creative and engaging lessons to create passionate historians, staff need to feel valued and as if they are being challenged and moving forwards.

- **Look for opportunities for staff to lead e.g. James focused on developing Independent Learning across KS4 & KS5, Joel taking a lead on the BCM trip.**
 - **CPD opportunities.**
 - **Sharing higher level history articles, websites, interesting things we have read. Developing knowledge.**
- 
- The background of the slide features a decorative illustration. It shows three stylized trees with green, gear-like foliage and brown trunks, standing on a patch of green grass. The gears are of various sizes and are interlocked, creating a mechanical theme. The overall style is clean and modern.

Creative and engaging lessons

Idea 1: Active learning lessons

‘History doesn’t sit still so why should we?’

KS3

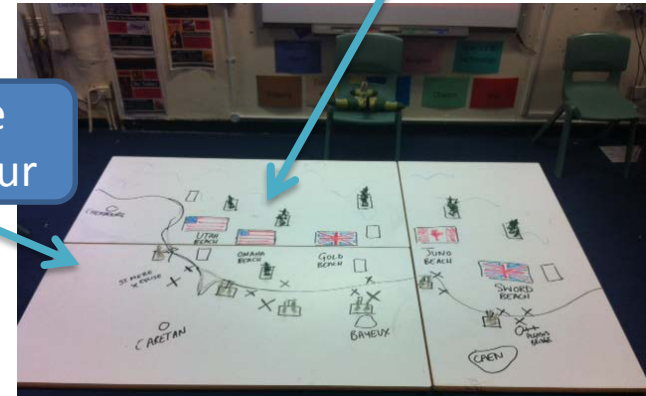
- Industrial Revolution news round & weather report.
- Spanish Armada battle lesson.
- D-Day landings military boardroom lesson.

KS4 & 5

- Vietnam GI game.
- Storming the Winter Palace.

Use pencil cases as The Mulberry floating Harbour

Now add aerial support



Now add sound effects, and interactive elements with the class





Creative and engaging lessons

Idea 2: Humour within lessons

‘Doctor, Doctor I feel like a pair of curtains....’

KS3

- Top Trumps cards for Individuals from The First and Second World Wars (moustache category essential).

KS4 & 5

- Doctor, Doctor jokes
- Medicine Through Time 1 minute videos
- Epic Rap Battles of History



Creative and engaging lessons

Idea 3: Investigation lessons

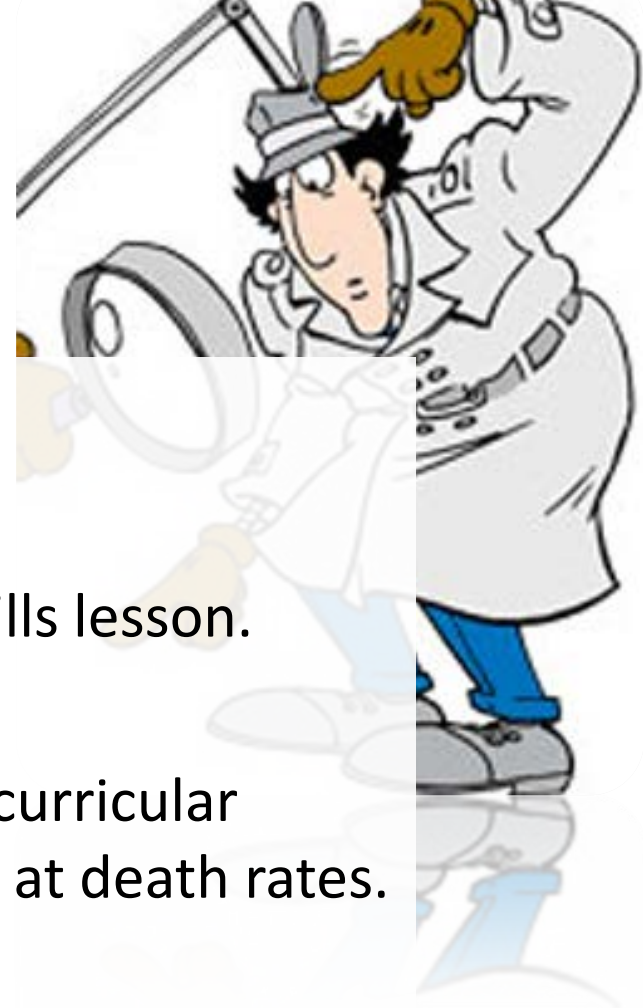
‘Can you be a History detective?’

KS3

- Can you be a History detective – 2 part skills lesson.
- Black Death causes & cures investigation.
- Cholera deaths investigation – Also cross-curricular opportunity as we link with Maths to look at death rates.

KS4 & 5

- Causes of infection.
- Effectiveness of US weaponry in The Vietnam War.



Creative and engaging lessons

Idea 4: **Relevance** lessons



‘He died in Wroughton Mill...but that’s next to my house!’

KS3

- Thomas Wallis milling accident assessment.
- Wroughton’s involvement in The First World War.
- Lessons involving staff background e.g. Frank Whittle designed the jet engine / Donald Thorne - Halifax Bomber crash lesson.

KS4 & 5

- Conflict in Ireland – modern news stories – tracing the conflict back.

6755 Private
E. Ashton
Wiltshire Regiment
24th February 1919



Creative and engaging lessons

Idea 5: *Decision making lessons*

‘Why did they decide to do that?’

‘Would you have done any differently?’

KS3

- Protecting your school – The Home Guard

KS4 & 5

- The Easter Rising – planning for a new republic

To ensure success you need organisation, but who do you trust? How many leaders do you have for the uprising?

You must choose a location for your HQ-

Think about where and why?
What does your HQ need to provide you with?

You need to write a declaration of Independence, what will it say? How will you justify your actions to gain support for your provincial Government?



Creative and engaging lessons

Idea 6: Differentiation within lessons

‘Choose your challenge, there are different routes, how will you get to 30 points?’

KS3

- Challenge sheets with ranging activities & points
- Assessment support sheets – The British Empire.
- Homework choice sheets

KS4 & 5

- Challenge sheets with ranging activities & points - MTT
- Source analysis – LA, MA, HA source, not obvious but directed.



Creative and engaging lessons

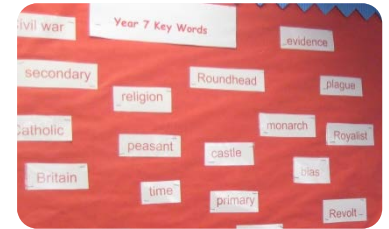
Other *Ideas: Consistency* of approach in lessons

‘Do it consistently across the department and across your lessons’

LANGUAGE – Use GCSE language with KS3 to embed it, refer to students as ‘historians’.

Literacy – Emphasise the importance, follow the school policy, glossary, key words & generated definitions.

Classroom environment – see next slide



Behaviour For Learning – Consistent department policy, clear subject report & process, school system followed, subject report.

Marking / Assessment – Move to KS3 linear assessments, guidance booklets, DIRT lessons to follow assessments



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Open evening – V. E. day street party



A Level extended reading



'Help yourself with exam skills' station

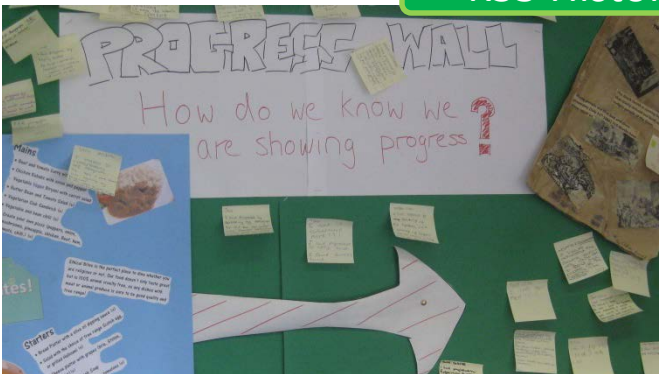


Classroom – engaging displays, promotes curiosity



Reading resources

KS3 History mural



Progress wall – How do you show it?



Question wall



First World War Immersion Day

Tweet revision ideas #historyrevision

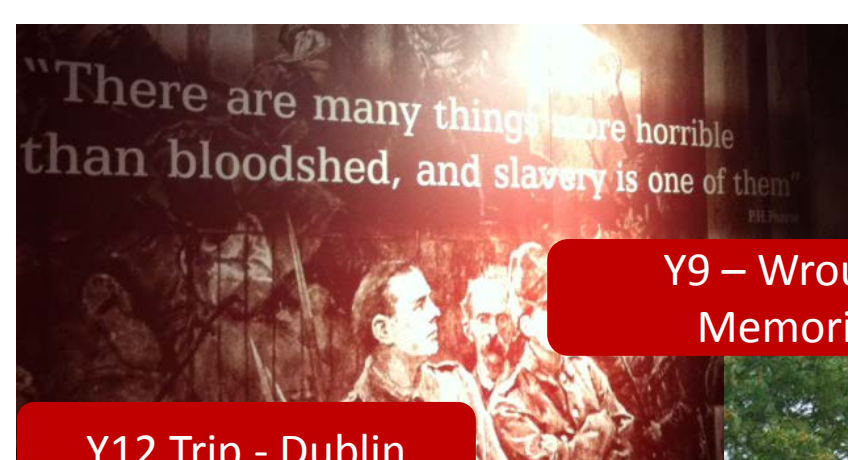
Which History teacher is which board?

- Favourite historian
- Favourite time period
- Favourite historical quote
- Favourite historical individual



History skills club – aka Tea & Toast club





Y9 – Wroughton War Memorial project

Y12 Trip - Dublin



Y9 – Centenary Battlefields Trip



Y8 – Wroughton Water Mill



Y10 trip – Berlin



Y8 – Black Country Museum



Opportunities to discover History

How do we know it is making an impact?

- Uptake at GCSE and A Level has increased every year over the last 3 years.

(We aim for this to become larger A Level sets in Y13)

- Results have shown improvement over the past 3 years, despite the growth in students.

(We aim for this to be further improved)

- Both student voice and parental feedback highlight History lessons and extra curricular provision very positively.

(We aim to maintain this provision, reputation and communication with both parents and students)





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