

NATIONALS IN A NUTSHELL

The National Parent Forum of Scotland Summary of History National 5

HISTORY
SOCIAL STUDIES

NATIONAL
5

3

UNITS

HISTORICAL STUDY: SCOTTISH

five topic choices eg Mary Queen of Scots and the Reformation

HISTORICAL STUDY: BRITISH

five topic choices eg The Atlantic Slave Trade 1770–1807

HISTORICAL STUDY: EUROPEAN AND WORLD

ten topic choices eg Free At Last? Civil Rights in the USA 1918–1968

+
COURSE
ASSESSMENT

COURSE ASSESSMENT: ASSIGNMENT + QUESTION PAPER

What skills will my child develop?

- exploring, analysing, describing, explaining
- developing a detailed knowledge and understanding of historical themes and events
- evaluating the impact of historical developments
- evaluating the origin, purpose, content/context of historical sources
- handling a variety of primary and secondary sources eg print, photographs, artefacts, newspaper archives, oral recordings
- comparing and contextualising those sources and drawing reasoned conclusions from them
- presenting information and views
- researching, organising and analysing information
- decision-making and problem-solving
- communicating for different purposes
- thinking independently



WHAT WILL MY CHILD EXPERIENCE DURING THE COURSE?

- Active, collaborative and independent learning
- A blend of classroom approaches: whole class, small group or one to one discussions; direct interactive teaching
- Space for personalisation and choice: Assignment topic choice and methodology
- Collaborative learning: through discussion/debate; in groups (to research a topic and share findings with the class); more widely (blogging and communicating findings with learner communities around the world)
- Applying learning
- Embedding literacy skills: selecting and assessing information, presenting findings; evaluating; debating; listening; reading; writing.

ASSESSMENT

- To gain National 5, learners must pass all Units and the Course Assessment (the Assignment and the Question Paper)
- Units are assessed by schools/centres (following SQA external quality assurance)
- Unit Assessment (or 'evidence of learning') could be digital or spoken presentations, posters, leaflets, extended writing, notes or podcasts. Learners may use these to build a portfolio to show their progress through the Units
- The Course Assessment consists of the Assignment (a report on a historical issue of the learner's own choice, researched in advance and written up under controlled conditions) and a Question Paper (exam). Both are marked by the SQA and will be graded A to D.

ACTIVE AND COLLABORATIVE LEARNING IN THE CLASSROOM

The Rise of Hitler between 1928 and 1933

Learners divide into groups that represent the different social, ethnic and political groups such as Communists, Jews and the middle class. They then research the Nazi Party's rise to power from their group's point of view. Each group presents its findings to the class and a discussion takes place about economic crises and their impact.

National 5 progresses onto Higher History

For more detailed course information:

SQA: History National 5: www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45628.html

Education Scotland: www.educationscotland.gov.uk/nationalqualifications/index.asp

Curriculum for Excellence Key Terms and Features Factfile:

www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Images/CfEFactfileOverview_tcm4-665983.pdf