

Getting ready for Year 12

Year 12 History at Shaftesbury School involves the study of 2 units with the Edexcel exam board;

- Unit 1C: Britain, 1625–1701: conflict, revolution and settlement
- Unit 2C.2: Russia in revolution, 1894–1924

In order to “hit the ground running” in Year 12, students should;

1. Prepare “Visitor’s Guide” to “Russia in 1894”. To be submitted in the first lesson of Year 12. The guide should aim to identify some of the key individuals, the challenges and issues Russia faced at that time, as well as some aspects of ordinary life such as the role of religion, transport etc. How is Russia ruled/governed? What is the geography of this vast country? How is the country doing economically? What are the different groups and classes in society and how are they doing? How diverse is Russian society? How significant are religious, cultural and ethnic minorities? Just how stable is the country? It may work best if written in the present tense, as if written for someone about to visit the country at that time and highlighting some of the key features, dangers etc.

2. Create a timeline of “British” history 1625-1701, showing understanding of the major changes in this period – the growing tension and eventual conflict between the crown and parliament, the periods without a monarch and after the return of Charles II. How, and when was the power of the monarchy reduced in the 17th century? The timeline should also show other major events and changes in this period in terms of social change, the growth of a culture and the development of intellectual ideas, and show understanding of the impact of the Scientific Revolution, the great plague and the Fire of London, and the growth of the British Empire. To be submitted in the first lesson of Year 12.

There are numerous web-based resources, articles and even feature films that provide some useful background and context to the periods studied, e.g. *To Kill a King*. Abebooks.co.uk as well as amazon.co.uk stock cheap second hand copies of many useful novels and textbooks.

Mr Langford
Head of History
Shaftesbury School