**Year 9 History**

|  | **Topic** | **Key concept/theme – what do I want the students to learn from this unit?** | **What knowledge will they acquire?** |
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| **Half term 1.** | Causes of the First World War | The causes of the First  World War, to show how and why conflict occurred. | • The Alliance System: the Triple Alliance; Franco -Russian Alliance; relations between the  ‘Entente’ powers; the crises in Morocco (1905 and 1911) and the Balkans (1908–1909), and  their effects on international relations.  • Anglo-German rivalry: Britain and challenges to Splendid Isolation; Kaiser Wilhelm’s aims in foreign policy, including Weltpolitik; colonial tensions; European rearmament, including the  Anglo-German naval race.  • Outbreak of war: Slav nationalism and relations between Serbia and Austria-Hungary; the  assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand in Sarajevo and its consequences; the July  Crisis; the Schlieffen Plan and Belgium; reasons for the outbreak of hostilities and the  escalation of the conflict. |
| **Half term 2** | Stalemate | Why the war was fought the way it was? | The Schlieffen Plan: the reasons for the plan, its failure, including the Battle of Marne and its  contribution to the stalemate.  • The Western Front: military tactics and technology, including trench warfare; the war of  attrition; key battles, including Verdun, the Somme and Passchendaele, the reasons for, the  events and significance of these battles.  • The wider war: the war on other fronts; Gallipoli and its failure; the events and significance of  the war at sea, including Jutland, the U-Boat campaign and convoys. |
| **Half term 3** | End of the war | Why was it so difficult to bring it to a conclusion? | Changes in the Allied Forces: consequences of the Bolshevik Revolution and the withdrawal  of Russia on Germany strategy; the reasons for and impact of the entry of the USA into the  war.  • Military developments in 1918 and their contribution to Germany’s defeat: the evolution of  tactics and technology; Ludendorff the German Spring Offensive; the Allied advance during  The Hundred Days.  • Germany surrenders: impact of the blockade; abdication of the Kaiser; armistice; the  contribution of Haig and Foch to Germany’s defeat. |
| **Half term 4**  **Half term 5** | **Part one: American people and the 'Boom'**  **Part two: Bust – Americans' experiences of the Depression and New Deal** | Why some Americans lived the 'American  Dream' whilst others grappled with poverty, discrimination and prejudice.  Students will study the political, economic, social and cultural aspects of these two developments  and the role ideas played in bringing about change. They will also look at the role of key individuals  and groups in shaping change and the impact the developments had on them.  This period study focuses on the development of the USA during a turbulent half century of  change. It was a period of opportunity and inequality – when some Americans lived the 'American  Dream' whilst others grappled with the nightmare of poverty, discrimination and prejudice.  Students will study the political, economic, social and cultural aspects of these two developments  and the role ideas played in bringing about change. They will also look at the role of key individuals  and groups in shaping change and the impact the developments had on them. Why the US economy collapsed and what efforts were made to recover it and how this was eventually done. | The ‘Boom’: benefits, advertising and the consumer society; hire purchase; mass production,  including Ford and the motor industry; inequalities of wealth; Republican government  policies; stock market boom.  • Social and cultural developments: entertainment, including cinema and jazz; the position of  women in society, including flappers.  • Divided society: organised crime, prohibition and their impact on society; the causes of racial  tension, the experiences of immigrants and the impact of immigration; the Ku Klux Klan; the  Red Scare and the significance of the Sacco and Vanzetti case.  American society during the Depression: unemployment; farmers; businessmen; Hoover’s  responses and unpopularity; Roosevelt's election as president.  • The effectiveness of the New Deal on different groups in society: successes and limitations  including opposition towards the New Deal from Supreme Court, Republicans and Radical  politicians; Roosevelt's contribution as president; popular culture.  • The impact of the Second World War: America’s economic recovery; Lend Lease; exports;  social developments, including experiences of African-Americans and women. |