Year:10
Subject: History
Topic/Unit: History Around Us
When: Autumn 1

Huntington School
Learn and succeed

Overview: A study of a historical site forming 20% of the GCSE.

Why this? Why now? Students visit and investigate Fountains Abbey & Studley Royal to understand how this significant local and national site reveals historical changes over nearly a millennium.

Building on...building to: Following KS3 studies of the Norman Conquest and medieval religion, this unit allows students to apply their knowledge to a local, tangible environment before their final examinations. It develops skills in "site literacy," enabling students to evaluate physical remains as historical evidence. Furthermore, it builds towards extended writing skills required at KS5.

Sequence summary:

1. Medieval religious beliefs and the differences between Benedictines and Cistercians.
2. The changing uses of the site.
3. The Dissolution as a major turning point.
4. Limitations and benefits of site evidence.
5. Contemporary reconstructions of the site.
6. The changing significance of the site.

Key Vocabulary:

- Austerity
- Dissolution
- Typicality
- Significance

Assessments:

- 30-minute Knowledge Test
- Two practice extended essays
- A final end-of-unit assessment mirroring the GCSE format

Able and interested: Students will conduct high-level comparisons between Fountains and other abbeys like Rievaulx and St. Mary's.

Inclusion, Personal Development and Wider Skills: All students will be given the opportunity to conduct fieldwork at a historical site. The architectural focus support diverse learners in visualising medieval mindsets.

Homework and Independent Learning:

- Learning glossary terms for knowledge retrieval quizzes.
- Developing independent revision mind maps and site evidence grids.