A Level History (AQA)

Head of Department: Dr M McPartland

96% A*-C in 2026

UNIT 1: Stuart Britain and the Crisis of Monarchy, 1603–1702
This option allows you to study in breadth issues of change, continuity, cause and consequence in this period through the following key questions:

- How far did the monarchy change?
- To what extent and why was power more widely shared during this period?
- Why and with what results were there disputes over religion?
- How effective was opposition?
- How important were ideas and ideology?
- How important was the role of key individuals and groups and how were they affected by developments?

Part One: Absolutism Challenged: Britain, 1603–1649
Monarchs and Parliaments, 1603–1629
Revolution, 1629–1649

Part Two: Monarchy restored and restrained: Britain, 1649–1702
From Republic to Restored and Limited Monarchy, 1649–1678
The Establishment of Constitutional Monarchy, 1678–1702

UNIT 2: America: A Nation Divided, c1845–1877
This option provides for the study of a period of major change in American history, which saw the disintegration of the country into Civil War, demanding a subsequent reconstruction. It explores concepts such as political authority, abolitionism and social justice. It also encourages you to consider what creates social tension and harmony, the idea of nationhood and the issues surrounding political compromise.

Part One: The origins of the American Civil War, c1845–1861
North and South in c1845
Attempts to maintain the Union, c1845–1854
The outbreak of Civil War, 1854–1861

Part Two: Civil War and Reconstruction, 1861–1877
The War, 1861–1865
Early Reconstruction, 1865–1867
Radical Reconstruction, 1867–1877

UNIT 3: Coursework module: African-American Civil Rights 1877–1980
This module is an investigation of the black struggle for equality in the USA from the end of reconstruction to the 1980s. It examines the role of individuals such as Martin Luther King and Booker T Washington in that struggle as well as the role of the federal government (President, Congress and Supreme Court). You select a question which encompasses the whole 90 years and you write a 4500 word essay for assessment in the summer of Year 13.

