



KS3 History: Top Tips for Parents & Students



For Parents: How to Support Your Child

Tip	Why It Helps
1. Talk about history at home	Discuss historical events, family stories, or current news with historical links. It builds curiosity and relevance.
2. Encourage curiosity	Let your child ask questions and explore topics they find interesting — even beyond the curriculum.
3. Visit historical sites or museums	Local castles, exhibitions, or online virtual tours make history come alive. Many are free or low-cost.
4. Help with timelines and key dates	Use wall charts or flashcards to reinforce chronology — especially for topics like the Norman Conquest or World Wars.
5. Support reading and research	Encourage reading historical fiction, biographies, or watching documentaries. Ask what they're learning in class.
6. Celebrate effort, not just grades	Praise curiosity, improvement, and engagement. History rewards deep thinking and persistence.
7. Use school resources	Check homework platforms, revision guides, and teacher feedback. Ask about upcoming assessments or projects.



For Students: How to Succeed in KS3 History

Tip	Why It Helps
1. Know your key words	Learn and use historical vocabulary like “monarch,” “feudalism,” “empire,” and “suffrage.” It boosts confidence and clarity.
2. Think like a historian	Ask: What happened? Why? Who benefited? What changed? These questions help you analyse, not just describe.
3. Use PEEL paragraphs	Point, Evidence, Explain, Link — this structure helps you write strong answers and essays.
4. Revise little and often	Use flashcards, mind maps, or quizzes. Don't wait until the night before!
5. Ask for help	If you're stuck, talk to your teacher or classmates. History is about discussion and debate.
6. Make connections	Link topics together — e.g. how medieval power struggles relate to modern democracy. It shows deeper understanding.
7. Enjoy the stories	History is full of drama, conflict, and change. Find the human stories behind the facts — they make learning memorable.



Bonus: Great Questions to Ask at Home

- “What surprised you most in today’s lesson?”
- “Would you rather live in medieval England or Tudor England — and why?”
- “What would you change if you were a leader in that time?”