



## Topic Overview

History

GCSE:

Topic: Medicine Through Time 1250-present day

<p><b>What BIG IDEAS will you cover in this topic?</b> This unit explores how ideas about the causes, prevention, and treatment of disease have developed over time. It examines key changes and continuities from the Middle Ages to the modern day and investigates the impact of individuals, institutions, science, technology, and war. The unit also includes a focused study on medicine on the Western Front during the First World War, analysing how historical sources help us understand the context of medical treatment in trench warfare.</p>	<p><b>What other <u>key concepts, knowledge and skills</u> will you learn in this topic?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Understanding long-term and short-term change</li> <li>● Analysing historical interpretations and sources</li> <li>● Making inferences from evidence</li> <li>● Writing structured and analytical essays</li> <li>● Applying knowledge to a historical environment question</li> </ul>
<p><b>What important <u>prior knowledge</u> will you use from your prior learning?</b> Medieval beliefs and the role of the Church Renaissance ideas and their influence; Scientific methods and the Enlightenment; The context of the First World War</p> <p><b>Where does this topic fit into the <u>curriculum plan</u> for this subject?</b> It introduces the first Paper 1 unit for Edexcel GCSE History and is worth 30% of the overall GCSE. It provides a foundation in key historical skills and themes, while also building contextual knowledge for later topics such as the Industrial Revolution and the development of modern medicine. It helps students make sense of the evolution of ideas across centuries.</p>	<p><b>Assessment:</b></p> <p><b>How and when will you be assessed on this topic?</b></p> <p><b>What will the success criteria be?</b></p> <p>At the start of each lesson, there will be a quick quiz to assess knowledge from previous lessons; There will be regular practice of exam-style questions, including 4-, 8-, 12-, and 16-mark responses. There will be a formal assessment at the end of each theme or time period and a final end of year assessment covering all four time periods and the Western Front, which will be based on past GCSE papers. A Grade 4 usually needs the students to get between 45 and 50%</p>
<p><b>What is the key <u>vocabulary</u> that you will need to know in this topic?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Four Humours</li> <li>● Miasma</li> <li>● Hippocrates</li> <li>● Galen</li> <li>● Physician</li> <li>● Apothecary</li> <li>● Quack Doctor</li> <li>● Dissection</li> <li>● Public Health</li> <li>● Germ Theory</li> <li>● Vaccination</li> <li>● Anaesthetic</li> <li>● Antiseptic</li> <li>● Penicillin</li> <li>● Infection</li> <li>● NHS</li> <li>● Trench foot</li> <li>● RAMC</li> <li>● FANY</li> <li>● CCS (Casualty Clearing Station)</li> <li>● X-ray</li> <li>● Public Health</li> <li>● Epidemic</li> <li>● Sanitation</li> <li>● Laissez-faire thinking</li> </ul>	<p><b>What is the structure of learning/lessons in this topic?</b></p> <p>L1 – What did people in the Middle Ages believe caused illness?</p> <p>L2 – How was disease prevented and treated in the medieval period?</p> <p>L3 – What was the role of the Church in medieval medicine?</p> <p>L4 – How did medical ideas change during the Renaissance?</p> <p>L5 – What were the key contributions of Vesalius, Harvey and Sydenham?</p> <p>L6 – What was the significance of the printing press and the Royal Society?</p> <p>L7 – What were the causes and treatments of the Great Plague?</p> <p>L8 – What impact did Germ Theory have on medicine?</p> <p>L9 – How did anaesthetics and antiseptics change surgery?</p> <p>L10 – What were the key public health reforms of the 19th century?</p> <p>L11 – Why was the discovery of penicillin so significant?</p> <p>L12 – How did the NHS change access to healthcare?</p> <p>L13 – How did modern medicine develop in the 20th century?</p> <p>L14 – Western Front 1: What injuries were common in the trenches?</p> <p>L15 – Western Front 2: How were wounded soldiers treated and moved?</p> <p>L16 – Western Front 3: How do we use sources to investigate the medical environment?</p>