

Israel-Palestine in secondary schools – having the confidence to teach it

Glossary for non-teachers

Key Stage 3 (Years 7 – 9)	11 - 14 year-olds	the last years of compulsory history
Key Stage 4 (Years 10 – 11)	14 – 16 year-olds	the GCSE years
Key Stage 5 (Years 12 – 13)	16 – 18 year-olds	The Sixth Form/A level years

Why does the GCSE course start in 1945?

'At GCSE, students are required to study a **thematic** course which covers about one hundred years of history, a **depth** study, covering about 20 years, and a **period** study of about 50 years.'

'Conflict in the Middle East, 1945-95' falls into the latter category. In practice, no teacher would start this course without teaching about the contradictory promises made by Britain during the First World War, especially the Balfour Declaration, and the years of the British Mandate.

International GCSE courses, mostly taken by independent schools, are not bound by the same constraints and the course starts in 1917.