

Scheme of Learning: Changes in Health and Medicine in Britain c500 to the present day

Topic Sequence:					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Causes of Disease	Prevention of Disease	Treatment of disease	Medical Knowledge	Public Health	Patient Care

Topic Overview:

In this penultimate unit, students are answering the key question “When did the government fully take responsibility for Public Health?” We will learn about how the government’s attitude to public health was, mostly, laissez faire in the medieval and early modern periods. However, we will look at some local efforts to improve public health such as Coventry. We will then learn about how, over time, the government began to play an increasing role in attempting to improve the public’s health.

Lesson Sequence:

We begin this unit by demonstrating that some local areas in medieval times did make attempts to improve public health. We will learn about how, in Coventry, the local laws meant that you had to ensure the front of your house was clean and that everyone paid towards waste disposal too. Students will then learn that this was more of an outlier and how, due to a lack of government involvement, public health was often poor across the country.

We will then learn about how there were some government interventions to improve public health throughout the 16th and 17th century, but how these often lacked enforcement. For example we will learn about how Henry VIII passed acts to try and get sewers built and how the Act for the rebuilding of London was created after the Great Fire of 1666.

Students then explore the impacts of industrialisation on Public Health again, this time looking at the work of social reformers such as Edwin Chadwick and how their research into living conditions resulted in significant new laws that attempted to improve the health of the nation. This then leads nicely to students learning about government attempts to improve housing and pollution in the 20th century. Finally, students will learn about modern campaigns to improve public health by encouraging healthy lifestyle habits.

Sequence of Lessons:	
1	Medieval public health
2	16 th and 17 th century public health
3	19 th century public health
4	20 th and 21 st century public health
5	Revision

Topic Resources:			
Knowledge Map:	Module Knowledge Map: Medicine	Any other Resources:	

Assessment:	
Knowledge:	10 question knowledge test
Application of Knowledge:	Practice exam questions

Supportive Reading:	
Any supported reading listed here	BBC Bitesize