

Politics Curriculum Map 2024-25

Intent – Our curriculum intent is to have an ambitious and inclusive curriculum, that empowers our students to become life-long learners and successful global citizens. Through the study of A Level Politics, students develop a deep understanding of all aspects of Britain's political system, such as the role and nature of political parties, elections, parliament and the judiciary, as well as a detailed insight into four key political ideologies: conservatism, socialism, liberalism and feminism. This foundation of knowledge is then used to answer complex political questions, such as comparing the US and UK political systems and evaluating the merits of each system in order to justify which system is better. Through a well-sequenced curriculum, we intend to embed knowledge and skills that challenge all learners.

Our curriculum is designed to cultivate a rich vocabulary, enabling our students to think and write politically. Students are taught subject specialist and disciplinary language in an explicit and direct manner. Students develop valuable transferable skills such as how to infer meaning from a source and how to assess and evaluate different arguments. The political curriculum also provides numerous opportunities for students to reach their own interpretations about the past and learn how to eloquently defend their views through both the spoken and written word.

Term	Autumn 1		Autumn 2		Spring 1		Spring 2		Summer Term	
Year 12 <i>Edexcel A Level</i>	Unit 1: UK Politics 1.1: Democracy and participation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representative democracy; • Participation; • Rights in context. Unit 1: UK Politics 1.2: Political Parties in the UK <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideology and policy; • Mainstream / third parties; • Party systems. 	Timed Essay on 1.1/1.2	Unit 1: UK Politics 1.3: Electoral processes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Majoritarian systems; • Proportional systems; • Advantages / disadvantages. Unit 1: UK Politics 1.4: Voting behaviour <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theories of voting behaviour; • Demographic / social factors; • Media influence. Trip to Parliament	Timed Essay on 1.3/1.4	Unit 2: UK Government 2.1: Constitution <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Origins and sources; • Reforms (inc. devolution); • The case for reform. Unit 2: UK Government 2.2: Legislative branch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • House of Commons / Lords; • Legislative process; • Relationship with executive. 	January Mock Unit 1 and 2	Unit 2: UK Government 2.3: Executive branch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prime Minister and Cabinet; • Powers and limitations; • Relationship with the legislative. Unit 2: UK Government 2.4: Judicial branch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supreme Court; • Relationship with executive; • Location of sovereignty. Trip to Supreme Court	Timed Essays on Unit 1 and 2	Unit 1: Core Political Ideas Core Political Ideas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liberalism; • Conservatism; • Socialism. Unit 2: Non-Core Political Ideas Feminism: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liberal feminism; • Radical feminism; • Intersectionality. 	EOY Exam Component 1 and 2
Year 13 <i>Edexcel A Level</i>	Unit 3: US Government and Politics 3.1: Constitution and Federalism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constitution; • Federalism; • UK/US comparison. 3.2: Executive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President; • Powers and limitations; • UK/US comparison. 	Timed essay on Ideas and 3.1	Unit 3: US Government and Politics 3.3: Electoral processes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nomination process; • Presidential Elections; • UK/US comparison. 3.4: Legislative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • House of Representatives; • Senate; • UK/US comparison. 	Timed essay on 3.2/3.3	Unit 3: US Government and Politics 3.5: Judiciary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supreme Court; • Significant rulings; • UK/US comparison. 3.6: Political parties <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Democrats; • Republicans; • UK/US comparison. 3.7: Rights and race relations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Racial inequality; • Progress towards equality; • UK/US comparison. 	January Mock Full Unit 2 and 3	Revision: Unit 1: UK Politics Unit 2: UK Government Unit 3: US Government and Politics	March Mock Full A Level Paper	Revision and A Level Exams	