



Politics

Why study Politics at A Level?

We can't ignore Politics. We are affected by its decisions every hour of every day.

This impressive and respected A Level, therefore, facilitates an understanding of government that will be professionally and personally invaluable. If you care about people, society and the future of you, your friends and your family, then you will find Politics a stimulating and vibrant subject to follow.





Course Content

Politics is about how you are ruled and what part you can play in this system. It looks at the UK parliament and Prime Minister, its American equivalent, elections and voting behaviour as well as broader political ideologies including the increasingly topical 'Nationalism'.

Lower Sixth:

This year you will develop a real insight into the working of the British political system. You'll learn about how the Westminster parliament works, what the British government does, what role the Supreme Court plays, and how we elect our representatives to Westminster, Cardiff, Belfast and Edinburgh. We will also be looking at UK pressure groups and political parties as well as a myriad of factors that influence UK voters. You'll then be entered for the Edexcel Politics AS qualification - two 1 hour 45 minute examinations.

Upper Sixth:

Primarily in Year 2, we move across the Atlantic and study the workings of the American government. A broad look at the US Constitution, Congress, Presidency and Supreme Court will be complemented by work on the US electoral process as well as American political parties, pressure groups and civil rights. We will also be looking at the main political ideologies - liberalism, socialism and conservatism. There will be 3 examinations at the end of the Upper Sixth, lasting 2 hours each and testing what we have learned over the whole course (both years).

Trips and Visits:

All A Level students will be offered the opportunity to visit the Houses of Parliament in the Spring term of their first year. We will also have an audience with our local MP and opportunities for political seminars are regular. In previous years we have visited the United States in a combined Business/Politics trip that took us to New York and Washington. It is hoped that this will run again in the near future.



SKILLS
obtained by
studying
**Government
and Politics:**

The study of Politics keeps you current and dynamic while training you to be concise, analytical and ultimately persuasive. These skills are well recognised by employers and help explain why Politics is welcome in careers ranging from the Diplomatic Service to business management, banking and media. Of course, you could become a politician and help change the world.