

Curriculum - Overview

Year 12 UK Government and Politics

Students will investigate in detail how people and politics interact. They will explore the emergence and development of the UK's democratic system and the similarities, differences, connections and parallels between direct and indirect democracy. They will focus on the role and scope of political parties that are so central to contemporary politics, including the significance of the manifestos they publish at election time and their relevance to the mandate of the resulting government.

The component introduces students to the set of rules governing politics in the UK, the UK constitution, which is different in nature from most of the rest of the world. It further introduces students to the specific roles and powers of the different major branches of the government – legislative, executive, and judiciary – as well as the relationships and balance of power between them and considers where sovereignty now lies within this system.

Year 13 – Global politics and ideologies

Global politics gives students an opportunity to develop an understanding of the local, national, international and global dimensions of political activity. It also gives them the opportunity to explore the political issues that affect all of us. Students will gain understanding of abstract political concepts through grounding them in contemporary real-world examples and case studies that will develop an international awareness and knowledge of multiple perspectives.

This section allows students to explore the three traditional political ideas of conservatism, liberalism and socialism. Students will learn about the core ideas and principles and how they apply in practice to human nature, the state, society and the economy, the divisions within each idea and their key thinkers. Feminism is an ideology based on the belief that society is characterised by unequal gender power and status. All forms of feminism are committed to advancing the social role of women, ensuring that the disadvantages they face can and should be overthrown.

Curriculum – Topic Sequencing	
Year 12	Year 13
 Democracy and participation Political parties Electoral systems Voting behaviour and the media The constitution Parliament Prime Minister and executive Relations between the branches. Socialism 	 Liberalism Conservatism Feminism The state and globalisation Global governance: political and economic Global governance: human rights and environmental Power and developments Regionalism and the European Union Comparative theories.