



# POLITICS

Current Teaching Staff: Ms E Browne

***“One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors.”*** Plato

## **Examination board and syllabus:**

Edexcel Politics

## **Entrance requirement:**

At least **Grade 6** in English Language

Students will be involved in a variety of teaching methods. These include lectures, discussions, group work, student presentations, video material, study packs, IT-based activities, trips and visits and guest speakers, including local MPs.

There is no assessed coursework in this subject.  
Examination **(100%)** – Assessment is at the end of the two-year course through three two-hour papers. The exams will consist of both shorter style questions and questions which require lengthier responses, some of which draw upon source material.

## **There are three broad areas of study in this specification:**

### **UK Politics and Core Political Ideas:**

Case studies of elections, democracy, political parties, and the role of the media. The core political ideas studied are Conservatism, Socialism and Liberalism  
Typical debates include: How democratic is the UK? Should we use referendums more frequently? How far does New Labour represent different values and policies to Old Labour? To what extent do modern and classical liberals agree over the role of the state?

## **CAREERS**

This subject is appropriate for those intending to study Social Sciences post A Level at University. It is also a very useful subject for a wide range of careers including law, journalism/media, the civil service, many areas of management and of course the world of politics itself. Our experience indicates that a variety of employers in both the private and public sectors value the qualification

### UK Government and Non-core Political Ideas:

Case studies of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Parliament, Constitutional change, Relationships between the branches (for example the judiciary and parliament, Britain and the EU). The non-core political idea studied is Feminism which includes the historical origins and current issues within feminism, such as #metoo and divisions of opinions within the ideology.

Typical debates include: Should Britain introduce a written, codified constitution? To what extent has the UK government's control over Parliament been reduced in recent years? What are the differences between radical and liberal feminists?

### Global Politics

Case studies of the State and globalisation, Global governance: political and economic, Global governance: human rights and environmental issues, Power and developments, Regionalism and the EU and Comparative theories.

Typical debates include: The role and significance of the UN with regards to universal human rights. The impact of international agreements in approaching climate change. The effectiveness of both the IMF and the World Bank. The extent to which the USA has dominated global politics.

### Exam – more detail.

There are three exams at the end of year 13 and the paper will contain a mixture of medium and longer-style essay questions.

Number of Unit	%	EXAMINATION	Length of time	Time when Examination/ Coursework is entered
Paper 1	33.3%	Politics	2 hours	June of year 13
Paper 2	33.3%	Politics	2 hours	June of year 13
Paper 3	33.3%	Politics	2 hours	June of year 13

#### Students will need to:

Attend extra sessions before Examinations

#### Compulsory

#### Optional

Read widely around the subject

Make extensive notes

Carry out detailed revision for regular tests beyond public examinations

Be willing to lead class discussions

All Politics students must be prepared to undertake independent study utilising traditional and new media, the press, journals, television and radio. Success in this subject requires students to take an interest in current affairs and to read widely. There is a twitter page for the Politics course which you access online @**PoliticEbrowne**. This page is updated daily with news stories and articles relevant to the course.

There is also a trip to Parliament in the summer of year 12. Students will spend two days in London where they will have a guided tour of Parliament and attend a workshop, directly related to their course. They will also have an opportunity to visit other important bodies which may include political party headquarters or an international pressure group. There will also be visits to other important historical sites with constitutional significance.

In recent years Politics has become a very popular subject and many students have applied to study International Relations at universities across the UK.