



	<p>Intent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Politics is a subject that, more than any other, explains the society in which we live. • Politics is not an abstract academic discipline, remote from everyday life. It is relevant to almost every aspect of the world around us. • Politics is about discussion and debate, and being able to develop and defend a point of view • To have a deeper understanding of the stories behind the headlines and never look at the news in the same way • For students to be much better equipped to play their part as an active citizen • To learn valuable skills that can be applied to a wide range of situations, disciplines or career paths, including law, journalism, the media and the civil service 		
<p>Politics Year 12 & 13</p>	<p>Component 1: UK Politics and Core Political Ideas</p>	<p>Component 2: UK Government and Non-core Political Ideas</p>	<p>Component 3: Government and Politics of the USA</p>
<p>Knowledge (facts, information, concepts and key terminology)</p>	<p>There are four content areas in UK Politics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Democracy and participation: Sep - Nov 2. Political parties: Nov - Feb 3. Electoral systems: March - April 4. Voting behaviour and the media: April - June <p>This section explores the nature of politics and how people engage in the political process in the UK. 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.</p> <p>There are three content areas in Core Political Ideas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Liberalism: June - July 2. Conservatism: Sept 3. Socialism: Oct 	<p>UK Government</p> <p>There are four content areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The constitution: April - June 2. Parliament: Sep - Nov 3. Prime Minister and executive: Nov - Feb 4. Relationships between the branches: March - April <p>Politics is ultimately about people, but most political decisions are made by a branch of government whose roles and powers are determined by a set of rules: the constitution. This component is fundamental to understanding the nature of UK government, since it enables students to understand where, how and by whom political decisions are made. The component also gives students a base of comparison to other political systems.</p> <p>Students will explore the following key themes: the relative powers of the different branches of UK government; the extent to which the constitution has changed in recent years; the desirability of further change; and the current location of sovereignty within the UK political system.</p> <p>Non-core Political Ideas</p> <p>This section allows students to explore one additional political idea. Students will learn about the core ideas and principles, the effects of this idea, the divisions within the idea and its key thinkers.</p> <p>Of the five additional ideas, students will learn about Nationalism. There are three content areas for this option all covered from June - July</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nationalism: ideas and principles 2. Different types of nationalism 3. Nationalist thinkers and their ideas. 	<p>There are six content areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The US Constitution and federalism: Oct - Nov 2. US Congress: Jan - Feb 3. US presidency: Feb - Mar 4. US Supreme Court and US civil rights: Mar - Apr 5. US democracy and participation: Dec - Jan 6. Political Parties: Apr - May <p>Students will explore the US Constitution and the arguments surrounding this guiding document of US democracy. In learning about the key institutions of government in the USA and analysing the manner in which they achieve this power and exercise it over their citizens, students will judge ultimately whether 'liberty and justice for all' has been achieved in the USA. Students will be expected to highlight the debates on the nature of democracy in the USA and evaluate the extent to which it remains an issue.</p>

<p>Understanding (ability to connect and synthesise knowledge within a context)</p>	<p>UK Politics allows students to understand the individual in the political process and their relationship with the state and their fellow citizens. Students will examine how electoral systems in the UK operate and how individuals and groups are influenced in their voting behaviour and political actions. This component will further examine the role of the media in contemporary politics. It will also give students an understanding of voting patterns and voting behaviour.</p> <p>Core Political Ideas 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.</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Students will understand that nationalism believes that nations are a timeless phenomenon. It is based on the belief that people have been attached to the practices connected with their heritage and seeks to continue them freely.</p>	<p>The USA has been considered by some to be a ‘beacon of democracy’. As a world power, understanding the nature of US democracy, and the debates surrounding it, is crucial given the considerable impact that the USA has on UK, European and global politics.</p> <p>The impact of the US government on the world beyond its borders is increasingly a feature of international politics. Students will begin to engage with this interaction by comparing and contrasting politics and institutions in the US with those in the UK. This will develop a wider understanding of politics as a discipline, underpinned by the theoretical concepts of comparative politics.</p>
<p>Skills (successful application of knowledge and understanding to a specific task)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students must comprehend and interpret political information in relation to areas of UK politics and core political ideas. • Students must fully understand, and critically analyse and evaluate areas of UK politics and core political ideas. • Students must identify parallels, connections, similarities and differences between content studied, providing a basis for comparing the UK with the USA and appreciating the UK’s position in global politics. • Students must construct and communicate arguments and explanations with relevance, clarity and coherence, and draw reasoned conclusions about UK politics and core political ideas. • Students must develop knowledge and understanding of key political concepts. • Students must use appropriate vocabulary. The content supports this skill by listing key terminology in each content area. The lists are to support teaching of the main content and help students to use appropriate vocabulary in assessment. Students should, therefore, familiarise themselves with the definitions of key terminology for each section 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students must fully understand, and critically analyse and evaluate areas of UK government and one non-core political idea. • Students must construct and communicate arguments and explanations with relevance, clarity and coherence and draw reasoned conclusions about UK government and one non-core political idea. <p>Synoptic assessment requires students to work across different parts of a qualification and to show their accumulated knowledge and understanding of a topic or subject area. Synoptic assessment enables students to show their ability to combine their skills, knowledge and understanding with breadth and depth of the subject.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students must comprehend and interpret political information in relation to areas of US politics. • Students must fully understand and critically analyse and evaluate areas of US politics. • Students must construct and communicate arguments and explanations with relevance, clarity and coherence and draw reasoned conclusions about US politics.
<p>Formal Assessments (those done by all/vast majority of the cohort)</p>	<p>One assessment per half term (Past Paper Question) One mock in Year 12 and two mocks in Year 13. Final examination</p>	<p>One assessment per half term (Past Paper Question) One mock in Year 12 and two mocks in Year 13. Final examination</p>	<p>One assessment per half term after Christmas in Y13. One mock in Y13. Final examination</p>
<p>By the end of the year students on course for at least a grade C will...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate a range of generally accurate knowledge and understanding of political concepts, ideas, institutions and processes and some awareness of significant debates and theories, including aspects of comparative politics. • analyse aspects of politics and political information, noting parallels, connections, similarities and differences within the A-level specification; present explanations and make comparisons with reasonable clarity and coherence, using some political vocabulary; support some statements and judgements with useful evidence; apply relevant theory where appropriate; maintain a clear focus in the analysis. • make a sound evaluation of aspects of politics and political information with supported arguments and judgements, leading to reasoned conclusions that are largely consistent with the preceding analysis. 			