

POLITICS KEY STAGE 5 CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

By the end of Key Stage 5, students should:

Know	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Be up to date on current affairs.</i> • <i>How to criticise appropriately</i> • <i>How to articulate an opinion based on evidence and recognise contrasting opinions.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How UK and US politics work and the structures of power. • About ideas such as democracy, participation and the political spectrum.
Do	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Understand how to construct engage in debates.</i> • <i>Understand how to construct arguments based on a limited set of information.</i> • <i>Identify gaps in knowledge and formulate questions that need to be asked.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop independent and research skills. • Engage with the outside world, visiting seats of government and hearing from politicians.
Appreciate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Strong sense of justice</i> • <i>Curiosity about the way politics and democracy has developed over time</i> • <i>Relish the opportunity to engage in dialogue</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Develop the confidence to share their knowledge, understanding and opinions with other.</i> • <i>The ability to build their cultural capital by work in the classroom, on trips, in work settings and through dialogue with professionals.</i>

Curriculum coverage

	Topic	Sub topic	Coverage	
Year 12	UK Politics and Core Political Ideas	Democracy and Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Representative and Direct Democracy</i> • <i>Have the public lost trust in representatives?</i> • <i>Widening the franchise</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Pressure groups, Think Tanks and lobbyists</i> • <i>Rights in Context</i>
		Political Parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Functions and Features</i> • <i>The Conservative Party</i> • <i>The Labour Party</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Liberal Democrat Party</i> • <i>Other parties</i> • <i>Political parties in context</i>
		Electoral systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Elections in the UK</i> • <i>Different electoral systems</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Referendums</i>
		Voting behaviour and the Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Social factors</i> • <i>Political context</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Influence of the media</i> • <i>Case studies of General Elections</i>
		Core Political Ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Liberalism</i> • <i>Conservatism</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Socialism</i>
	UK Government and Non-Core Political Ideas	The Constitution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Features of the UK constitution</i> • <i>Sovereignty</i> • <i>Changes under Labour</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Changes under the Conservatives</i> • <i>The impact of devolution on the UK</i>
		Parliament	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The development of parliament</i> • <i>The House of Commons</i> • <i>The House of Lords</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Comparative power of the Commons and Lords</i> • <i>How Parliament interacts with the Executive</i>
		The Prime Minister and the Executive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Structure, Role and Powers of the Executive</i> • <i>Ministerial Responsibility</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Prime Minister and the Cabinet</i> • <i>Prime Minister Case Studies</i>
		Relationship between Branches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Impact of the Supreme Court</i> • <i>Relationship between the Executive and Parliament</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The European Union</i> • <i>Sovereignty in the UK Political System</i>
		Non-Core Political Ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Choice between Nationalism, Feminism, Ecologism, Multiculturalism and Anarchism</i> 	

Curriculum coverage continued

	Topic	Sub topic	Coverage	
Year 13	US Politics and Comparative Theories	The US Constitution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature of the Constitution Effectiveness of the Constitution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How democratic is the Constitution? How federal is the US today?
		Congress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectiveness of Congress Congressional Elections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changing role and power of Congress Significance of parties in Congress
		The President	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Role and power of the President Executive Office of the President 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relationship to Supreme Court and Congress Limitations on power- imperial or imperilled?
		Supreme Court	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Role of the Supreme Court Impact of the Supreme Court on contemporary US politics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Political significance of the Court and Judges Protection of civil liberties and rights
		Elections and Parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presidential elections and campaign finance Democrat Party 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Republican Party Role of Interest Groups
		Comparison between UK and US politics.		

Wider Key Stage 5 Curriculum

Competitions: House Election
 Trips: Parliament, visits from speakers (local MP and Lord Norton of Louth have visited previously)
 Homework expectations: Examples log, podcasts, political television shows