



Politics: Curriculum Intent

Subject vision

We aim to develop a broad knowledge of the institutions, systems, people and ideas that underpin the political environment in both the UK and the USA. Through the study of politics we are committed to encouraging students to think critically, develop both substantive and disciplinary knowledge and use a wide range of evidence to reach measured judgements. We foster an environment centred on mutual respect and understanding of others in which open-mindedness and tolerance are explicitly promoted. We intend through providing students with a sound understanding of current affairs, they will better engage with the world around them and play their part as active citizens.

We deliver our curriculum intent on a subject level by:

At KS5 students have the opportunity to build on prior knowledge delivered via the PHSCE and Tutor Led programmes across Ks3 and KS4. Topics complement the Advanced Level History course which is also delivered by the department.

Enrichment

The History and Politics Department has a strong tradition of organising extra-curricular activities including hearing visiting speakers, participating in revision conferences delivered by subject experts and enjoying cultural excursions both at home and abroad. Students have opportunities to engage with current serving representatives at local council and constituency level, and they are able to see politics first hand when they organise and participate in Youth Parliament and Youth Model United Nations activities.

In Politics, students '**Achieve success**' by:

Encouraging high aspiration and a love of learning	The learning environment is purposeful with high quality resources. Staff are passionate and this subject and experts in their field. They ensure that lessons are delivered confidently and that scholarship is a highly valued quality. Links to potential careers and wider study are regularly referenced.
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Maximising progress and potential	Students follow a carefully sequenced course which allows for an introduction to topics not studied formally at GCSE level, thus enabling wider access to learning for all abilities of students.
Providing rewarding learning experiences	The department fully embraces a subject which changes with the times. Student resources are updated every year to ensure full access to 'post text-book' knowledge that is essential for success and engagement.
Offering diverse opportunities	In class students participate in activities which revolve around diverse skills including understanding scholarship, factual recall, collaborative learning, independent reflection and debating skills.
Recognising and celebrating all achievement	Effort is highly praised at all key stages. At KS5 students are encouraged to reflect on their achievement as much as their attainment, and regular conversations about Target Grades, Predicted Grades and future pathways are a regular feature, particularly in Year 13. Student effort is rewarded via the pastoral assemblies on a termly basis.

In Politics, students '**Value Others**' by:

Contributing to a safe school environment	Students are welcomed into lessons and have clear boundaries and expectations for conducting themselves in the classroom.
Showing tolerance, respect and fairness	Students are encouraged to debate and engage with a wide range of political viewpoints. Fully supported arguments are modelled throughout the course and the department aims to show political balance in terms of content delivery and the guiding of emerging debate.
Listening to and respecting others' views	Students regularly debate and share ideas on a range of topics some of which may be considered controversial. Students are

	provided with modelled language for debating sensitive issues and clear parameters are modelled.
Appreciating and embracing diversity	Students consider the diverse nature of the UK and USA and its impact on values, voting behaviour and political activism.
Being an active member of our school and local community	The department has a strong tradition of encouraging active citizenship and political engagement. This has included welcoming local councillors and MPs to the school, organising the Youth Parliament elections, running a sixth form Debate Club, Youth Model United Nations group and running assemblies during 'Parliament Week'.
Co-operating with others	Students have the opportunity to participate in collaborative learning both within and beyond the classroom. They have the opportunity to attend a tour of Parliament and the Supreme Court along with students of Business Studies and Economics. They have also been successful in their applications to work at the count at the 2019 election.