



OVERVIEW OF COURSE **A Level Course 9PL0/01**

Why Study Politics?

Political decisions shape our lives now and in the future. For that reason alone students should be aware of how their system of government operates and be able, as informed citizens, to participate in the democratic process and make a difference when they have left school. A Level Politics is ideal preparation for those very important privileges that we as citizens of the UK enjoy. The study of Politics is also an exciting intellectual challenge, with an emphasis on debate, discussion and argument.

Paper 1: UK Politics

Students will explore; democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media, in addition to looking at core political ideologies: conservatism, liberalism, socialism. 33% of qualification - 2 hour written examination.

Paper 2: UK Government

Students will explore the constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and executive, relationships between the branches in addition to assessing non core political ideas such as anarchism, ecologism, feminism, multiculturalism, nationalism. 33% of qualification - 2 hour written examination.

Paper 3: Comparative Politics

Students study US Politics. The USA component will examine the US Constitution and federalism, US Congress, US presidency, US Supreme Court and civil rights, democracy and participation, comparative theories. These will be compared and contrasted with UK political systems. 33% of Qualification- 2 hour written examination.

POPULAR SUBJECT COMBINATIONS

Politics A Level combines very well with any Humanity, English, Philosophy or Social Science subjects.

CAREER PATHS

Politics gives an excellent foundation to those who wish to pursue Politics, Law, Economics, Philosophy or History to degree level and Politics students go on to become solicitors, journalists, writers, managers, accountants, teachers, publishers, civil servants, leaders and politicians. Employers respect and value the skills developed in studying Politics and see it as a demanding course that both prepares students for further study and for life outside education.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

GCSE Grade 9-5 in English Language
GCSE Grade 9-5 in History (if taken)