**A-Level Politics**

**Overview**

Politics is for anyone interested in how the country is run, if you are thinking about a career in public service, journalism, PR, advertising, statistics this is the course for you.

We look at a range of Politics both in the UK and globally. We analyse the changing importance of democracy today—we study elections, parties and pressure groups as well as consideration of voting behaviour. In addition we evaluate how the UK is governed by focussing in on the UK constitution, the role of parliament, the prime minister and cabinet as well as the relationship between these branches. We also study important political ideas, including, Conservatism, Socialism, Liberalism and Feminism.

In Year 13 the focus is mostly on global politics. We analyse the structures of Global Politics like the globalisation phenomenon, the world order of states, economic and political global governance and regionalism and the EU. There is also analysis of issues or themes in global politics like conflict, poverty, the environment and human rights. We look at who runs the world – which is often hotly debated!

This course is 100% exam. There are three exams in total all taken at the end of the course. The exams consist of essay questions, so be prepared to write. However, you also need to voice your opinions in our many debates throughout the course.

**Whilst there will be some specific ‘bridging work’ set on the school website before the end of term, developing an understanding of the following systems prior to this would be useful:**

* What electoral system we use
* How laws are passed
* Why we have political parties
* Who is in the current cabinet
* Who are the leaders of the political parties (Conservative, Labour, Lib Dems, SNP, Green)
* What was Brexit?
* Why is Brexit still debated?
* What are the regional governments and why do they exist?

Politics is not studied before A Level and many of you may have no experience of politics before you begin this course.

**Coronavirus – government reaction**

Begin to read a newspaper daily and look at how the government are reacting to the pandemic will help you consider these questions.

What do you think of the government’s handling of the pandemic?

What is the media reaction to what the government is doing? Are they all the same?

**Save your work in a portfolio that can be incorporated into your subject folder if/once you decide to commence this course.**