

HISTORY & POLITICS DEPARTMENT

Head of Department: Mr R McDonald

Why choose the subject? You are keen, mature, aware, inquisitive, with an interest in current affairs and are ambitious to enter Law, Management (Public Relations), Journalism, the Civil Service, Industry, Nursing, the Public Services, University or Parliament! We have just the course for you.

Have you ever wondered about the answers to the following questions?

- We say we are a democracy – but is it really true?
- Are our liberties properly protected?
- Why did Labour lose the last election?
- Why have Greenpeace been a successful pressure group?
- Should people and animals have the same rights?

The answer to these and many questions will be revealed!

Who is eligible?

As Politics is a social science, it can be studied equally well by girls who are taking Arts or Science based A levels. It is certainly not necessary to have studied GCSE History in order to handle the course.

Although Politics is not studied lower down the school, it is as equally acceptable to universities and colleges as any other A level you might consider taking. Whether your motivation is academic, career-orientated or pure curiosity, the main requirement is to have an interest in the subject. You do not need a great deal of knowledge of political affairs in order to start the course but you do need to have some interest in current affairs, debates, or controversies, so candidates will be expected to acquaint themselves with quality newspapers, periodicals, journals and current affairs programmes on both T.V. and radio.

A LEVEL QUALIFICATION

Year 2019/21 Advanced Level Award Examination Board: EdExcel	UNIT 1	UK Politics
	Assessment Overview	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Political Participation - students will study democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media. 2. Core Political Ideas - students will study conservatism, liberalism and socialism. <p>Section A: Political Participation One 30-mark question from a choice of two (each question is based on a quote) – students must complete one of these. Plus one 30-mark question from a choice of two – students must complete one of these.</p> <p>All questions assess AO1, AO2 and AO3</p> <p>Section B: Core Political Ideas One 24-mark question from a choice of two, which assesses AO1, AO2 and AO3.</p>
	Written examination	<p>2 hours</p> <p>33⅓% of the qualification</p> <p>84 marks</p>

AS LEVEL QUALIFICATION

Year 2019/20 Advanced Subsidiary Award
Examination Board: EdExcel

UNIT 1

UK Politics

Students will study:-

- Democracy and participation
- Political parties
- Electoral systems
- Voting behaviour and the media

Assessment Overview

Section A

One 10-mark question from a choice of two, which assesses A01.

Section B

Two 10-mark questions based on a source. One question assesses A01 and A02 and the other question assess A02 and A03.

Written examination

1 hour and 30 minutes

50% of the qualification

60 marks

Unit 2

UK Government

Students will study:-

- The constitution
- Parliament
- Prime Minister and executive
- Relationships between the branches

Assessment Overview

Section A

One 10-mark question from a choice of two, which assesses A01.

Section B

Two 10-mark questions based on a source. One question assesses A01 and A02 and the other question assesses A02 and A03.

Section C

One mark question from a choice of two, which assesses A01, A02 and A03.

Written examination

1 hour and 30 minutes

50% of the qualification

60 marks

STUDENT VIEW

Politics



Studying Politics is stimulating and constantly thought-provoking. Throughout this year, I have developed a greater understanding of how our political system works as well as Politics around the world. On top of this, the teachers have always been supportive and their passion for the subject motivates the class. Lessons are varied and interactive and always involve a topical discussion, ensuring the whole class are involved with the constantly changing politics of the UK. This course is diverse and insightful and I would highly recommend it to anyone who would like to broaden their awareness of the growing interest revolving around Politics.

MR-W