

*"It has been said that democracy is the worst form of government except all the others that have been tried". - Winston Churchill*

**Are you interested in:**

- current affairs
- how people get elected
- how laws are made
- how you could change the world

**Leading to a career in:**

- Law
- Public Service
- Journalism
- Social Work

**Teacher to contact:**

Mr T Watkins

**Exam Board:** Edexcel



## A-level

### Component 1 - UK Politics

2 hour paper 33.3% of A-level

In **Paper 1** you will consider the idea of democracy and the different forms it can take as well as considering how people can participate in politics and how participation could be increased. The different electoral systems that are used within the UK will be explored along with their effects on representation and government. The role of political parties, pressure groups and the media on political decision making will also be looked at.

You will also study the history of political ideologies with an emphasis on conservatism, liberalism and socialism.

### Component 2 - UK Government

2 hour paper 33.3% of A-level

In **Paper 2** you will consider how the UK is governed. You will look at the sources of the UK's constitution and consider potential reforms. The roles of Parliament will be explored along with the differences between the House of Commons and the House of Lords. You will look at the role of the Prime Minister, the Cabinet and the executive branch as well as the role of the Supreme Court. A key focus will be on the relationships between the different branches of government and where power lies in the UK system.

You will also study one idea from the following: anarchism, feminism, or nationalism.

## Component 3 - Comparative Politics (USA)

2 hour paper 33.3% of A-level

In **Paper 3** you will compare the UK political system with that of the USA focusing on elections and voting patterns as well as the roles of political parties. Major US political issues including racial and ethnic politics will be considered along with the role pressure groups and the media play in framing these debates.

You will look at the constitution and federal structure of US government including the roles of the President, Congress and the Supreme Court in running the USA.

### Trips

You will have the opportunity to visit the UK Parliament building in Westminster and get the chance to see the centre of UK government as well as question an MP about their work in Parliament.

### Would fit well with:

Economics, Business Studies, Criminology, Law, History, Geography, Psychology, Sociology, Media Studies, Religion, Philosophy and Ethics and English, amongst others.

