

What exam board do we follow?

We use the Edexcel exam board. Specifically, the specification code is Politics (9PL0).

What will we study?

There are three aspects to the course:

- Component 1: UK Politics (code – 9PL0/01)
- Component 2: UK Government (code – 9PL0/02)
- Component 3: Comparative Politics (code – 9PL0/3A)

How are these units assessed?

There are three exams at the end of year 13:

- Paper 1 – 33.3% of final qualification – 2 hour paper. One source question from a choice of two (30 marks), one essay question from a choice of two (30 marks) and one political ideology question from a choice of two (24 marks).
- Paper 2 - - 33.3% of final qualification – 2 hour paper. Follows the same format as paper one.
- Paper 3 – 33.3% of final qualification - 2 hour paper. One 12 mark question from a choice of two, one compulsory 12 mark question focused on comparative theories, two essay questions from a choice of three (30 marks).

What resources are available to support your learning?

There are a couple of textbooks that are useful for the course, we have a selection of these textbooks so it is not compulsory to purchase them, although you may if you wish, these are:

- UK Government and Politics for AS/A-level: fifth edition (Lynch & Fairclough)
- US Government and Politics for A-level: fifth edition (A. Bennet)
- Political Ideas for A-level (Kelly & McNaughton)

The Edexcel website contains past papers and specimen papers that you can use to aid revision. We also use a VLE called Pre-Chewed Politics which has short videos and note sheets for all the topics we study on the course

What extra support will school offer?

All teachers of Politics will provide students with 'office hours', and students can arrange to meet with staff ad hoc throughout the year during these periods. Individual staff will also offer study supports on a weekly basis during year 13 to support their aspect of the course. Most courses will be completed by February of year 13, allowing ample time for revision.

What can parents do to support?

The most successful students of A-Level Politics are those who are actively involved in reading, and up to date with current political news. While it is important for students to engage in reading around the topic areas, students will develop their essay writing technique by being exposed to a variety of information, and parents can support this by encouraging students to read at home – whether this be news sites, political magazines or books.

