

SUBJECT DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW FOR GOVERNMENT & POLITICS



Why this subject?

- ▶ 1: *A fresh, new subject. Current, topical and interesting.*
- ▶ 2: *The importance of political literacy.*
- ▶ 3: *Compliments other subjects such as Economics & History.*
- ▶ 4: *A good career option. Many transferable skills and is considered to be a rigorous academic subject by universities.*
- ▶ 5: *Career options include: Law, Journalism, Civil Service, Publishing, or maybe even a Member of Parliament!*

Why this school?

- ▶ Politics is one of the most popular and successful departments in the school. We currently have just under 60 students taking the subject across the two years.
- ▶ Our 2019 exam results were among the top **30% of the country**, 37% of students got an A/A* grade, 75% of our students got an A or a B grade.
- ▶ Many of our students go on to read Politics and/or International Relations at university, or apply for subjects (such as Economics/History) where an A level in Politics is considered to be good compliment.
- ▶ Extra-curricular activities (see below)

How do I know if this is the right subject for me?

*Written based subjects (English & Humanities) need to be an area of strength for you. Assessments in Politics are all written essays

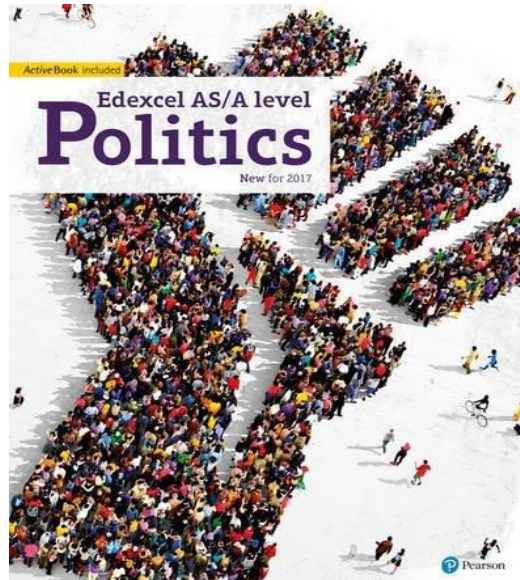
*You need to have an interest in current events

*You need to be comfortable in articulating and debating your opinions and the opinions of others. Be prepared to explore new ideas, new ways of looking at the world and have your opinions and pre-conceptions challenged.

*You must engage fully with induction because, unlike many other subjects, you will not have studied Politics before. Therefore this is your one opportunity to find out if this subject is really for you. Each of the three lessons has been selected to sample one aspect of the course.

What will you study?

Politics is now a reformed subject which means this is now a two year A level course and AS is not an option. Three papers, three exams all equal weighting. We follow the Edexcel specification.



Year 12 Content

1: UK POLITICS

Parties, electoral systems, voting

2: UK GOVERNMENT

Constitution, parliament, PM & executive, Judiciary

3: POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

Conservatism, Liberalism, Socialism & Anarchism

Year 13 Content

► Global Politics (International relations)

*The state & Globalisation

*Global Governance (Political & Economic), E.G Nato, the UN and the IMF

*Global Governance (Human Rights & Environmental) E.G IPCC, G7, G20

*The effectiveness of regional institutions such as the EU & Arab League

Extra Curricular Activities

▶ Annual trip to Parliament.

▶ Debating activities

House Debating within SJWMS

Rochester schools debating: A local competition run with other grammars & Independents

Debating Matters: National Competition

▶ Presentations at Royal Institute of Science

▶ Delivering Assemblies on Political Events

▶ Running Politics club for lower school students

▶ We also host regular visits from politicians. This year we were visited by a member of the cabinet Jacob Rees-Mogg, our local MP Kelly Tolhurst, a Labour Councillor Vince Maple and a representative from the Green Party Stuart Jeffrey



Visit from a member of the cabinet Jacob Rees Mogg: Jan 20



Visit from Rochester & Strood MP Kelly Tolhurst: Nov 19

If anyone has any queries or would like to submit some work for analysis please email the Head of Department Dr Bidmead at andrew.bidmead@sjwms.org.uk