**Government and Politics**

**Why study Politics A Level?**

Knowledge:

If you are fascinated by the way decisions are made, who makes them and the thinking behind them, then this subject will interest you.

Decisions are constantly being made which will affect you and society at large. Studying Government and Politics will provide a greater insight into political beliefs central to an understanding of the modern world.

This course allows you to study contemporary politics and develop a strong understanding of the factors shaping the British Political system.

Skills:

Develop a critical awareness of the nature of Politics and the relationship between political ideas, institutions and processes. Analyse and evaluate political information, arguments and explanations, and identify parallels, connections, similarities and differences between aspects of the political systems studied. Construct and communicate coherent arguments making use of a range of appropriate political vocabulary.

**Structure of the course:**

Year 12 British politics:

1. Political Participation, students will study:

● Democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media.

● Conservatism, liberalism, socialism.

● The constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and executive, relationships between the branches.

Year 13 politics:

● One ideology from the following: anarchism, ecologism, feminism, multiculturalism, nationalism.

● Theories of Global Politics, sovereignty and globalisation, global governance: political and economic, global governance: human rights and environmental, power and developments, regionalism and the European Union.

What will you study in Year 12?

* Voting Systems and raising participation in Democracy
* What do the parties stand for?
* How can you influence and shape politics?
* Why does the UK not have a constitution and what do we have in its place?
* The role of Parliament, the Prime Minister and his Cabinet.
* Role of politics in making and enforcing laws

What will you study in Year 13?

* What is Globalisation and is it positive or negative?
* What makes a Nation State?
* How do you become a superpower?
* How significant is the United Nations?
* The significance of the European Union
* Is there a ‘clash of civilisations’?
* How do we protect Human Rights in a globalised world?

Your A-level is made up of three 2 hour exams which are all worth one third of your grade. These are made up of longer essay questions.

The **entry requirement** for students is 5 A\*-C including English and Maths. We suggest that a Grade 6 in English or Grade B in History is essential to show you will be able to meet the written demands of the course.

**Higher Education courses or careers related to politics:**

Politics (!), Journalism and media, Communications, English Literature, Sociology, Economics, Psychology, History. One of the most respected degree course given at Oxford and Cambridge involves Politics: Politics, Philosophy and Economics (PPE).

Any questions please see Mr Taylor in T7 or email [ctaylor@littleheath.org.uk](mailto:ctaylor@littleheath.org.uk)