

Politics

“I don’t do politics!” Really? Who says you can’t buy alcohol under 18? Who says you have to stay in education or training until 18? Who chooses our politicians? Does Parliament truly reflect society? Are the political parties really any different from each other? What impact will 'Brexit' have on the UK? Why is the UK involved in conflicts around the world? Why does poverty exist? Is climate change the most important global issue? Through the study of current affairs, independent research and interpreting the words and acts of politicians in an objective way, you will reach a clear understanding of a range of British and global politics and how they are linked.

Content of Course

Year 12

- UK Politics: democracy and participation; political parties; electoral systems; voting behaviour and the media.
- UK Government: the constitution; Parliament; the Prime Minister and the Executive; relations between the branches.
- Core and Non-core political ideas: Conservatism, Liberalism, Socialism and Nationalism

Year 13

- Government and politics of the USA and comparative politics: Congress, the Executive, Supreme Court, Elections, Political Parties, Democracy and Representation.
- Political ideas: Liberalism, Conservatism, Socialism, Feminism, State, Society, Human Nature, Economy.

Specific Requirements & Skills Required

- GCSE English Language (6); GCSE English Literature (6)
- A real and developed interest in current affairs
- A high standard of literacy
- The ability to research and make connections
- A love of reading and analysing texts and philosophical ideas
- An open, inquiring mind and a love of debate
- A fascination for international developments and the ideas of other people and their views about society
- An ability to draw parallels between ideas and theories and their application in the modern world

Progression

Many students who have studied Politics at Woodcote have gone on to study it at university, either on its own, alongside another subject or as part of an International Relations course. Politics and International Relations are popular degree courses offered by many universities. It lays a good foundation for courses in Law, Sociology, Economics, History and Philosophy amongst others. Career opportunities are extensive and varied as a Politics degree is recognised for the wide range of skills it develops.