# Politics A Level

**Subject Leader: Mr Wilson**

**Syllabus: AQA**

**Course Specification: 7152**

**Course Overview**

Politics enables students to develop their critical thinking skills and enhance their ability to interpret, evaluate and comment on the nature of politics.

In Year 12 students will concentrate on Britain politics (Paper 1) and will begin a study of the Ideologies that underpin Politics (Paper 3).

In Year 13 students will focus on American politics and will compare and contrast the US and UK systems.
In addition, the final two ideologies will be studied (Paper 3).

**Course Requirements**

5 GCSEs grade 9–5 including Maths at grade 5 and English at grade 6 or History at grade 6.

**Year 1**

Unit 1: Government and Politics of the UK
- The British Constitution
- Parliament
- The Executive
- The Supreme Court
- Devolution
- Democracy and participation
- Elections and voting
- Political parties
- The European Union

Unit 3: Political Ideologies
- Liberalism
- Conservatism

**Year 2**

Unit 2: The Government of the USA and comparative politics (Part II)
- The Constitution of the USA
- The Legislature: Congress
- The Executive: The Presidency
- The Judiciary: The Supreme Court
- Democracy and participation
- Civil Rights
- Elections and voting
- Political parties

Unit 3: Political Ideologies
- Socialism
- Nationalism

**Assessment**

Year 12
Mock exams in the summer term of Year 12 will focus on the full UK Politics course as well as an adapted Political ideologies paper.
Year 13
Each unit is assessed by a written exam of 2 hours – a mixture of medium length 'explain' and essay type questions. Each paper is worth 77 marks. Each of the 3 papers is worth one third of the A-level.

**Additional Information**
It is envisaged that the course would be supported by ongoing liaison with the House of Commons Education Department and the United States Embassy; guided trips to Parliament and regular workshops with guest speakers – members of pressure groups, pollsters, and journalists. A working holiday to Washington D.C. would also be a (long term aspirational) element of the Year 13 Syllabus.

