

# A LEVEL POLITICS



## INTRODUCING A LEVEL POLITICS

All A Level Politics specifications for use in England are:

- Assessed by examination only
- Linear, with assessment at the end of the second year
- At WSFC we follow the Edexcel specification
- Year 1 introduces students to British Politics and some of its key issues. Year 2 is a more specialized, in-depth study of political ideas and Comparative Politics focusing on the USA
- Cover a broad range of relevant and contemporary ideas, institutions, processes and issues are to be covered

## OUR APPROACH TO TEACHING AND LEARNING

Building on our reputation for excellent results:

- We place a strong emphasis on allowing students to carry out activities, not just to develop their analytical and evaluative skills but to provide them with a full range of learning experiences
- We choose optional topics such as Feminism, Anarchism or Nationalism and US Politics. These allow learners to gain an insight into a range of the most interesting contemporary political issues and developments
- We have a flexible teaching approach but expect students to take responsibility for their learning. We stress the need to complete homework, respect deadlines and set high standards
- We use a wide range of high-quality learning materials
- Student outcomes in A Level Politics at WSFC have been consistently good or outstanding for many years
- Students will be taught by passionate and innovative subject specialists in Politics who are either current or former examiners



## A LEVEL ASSESSMENT

Students will be assessed by three written examinations in the summer of Year 2.

### Component 1 UK Politics

Written examination: 2 hours (33⅓% of the qualification)

Content overview

1. **Political Participation**, students will study: democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media.
2. **Core Political Ideas**, students will study: conservatism, liberalism, socialism.

### Component 2 UK Government

Written examination: 2 hours (33⅓% of the qualification)

Content overview 1. **UK Government**, students will study: the constitution, Parliament, Prime Minister and the government, relationships between the branches of government (Executive, Parliament, & Judiciary).

2. **Non-core political ideas**, students will study: one idea from the following: anarchism, ecologism, feminism, multiculturalism, nationalism.

### Component 3 Comparative Politics – The USA

Written examination: 2 hours (33⅓% of the qualification)

Students study **the government and politics of the USA**. This covers: the US Constitution and federalism, US Congress, US presidency, US Supreme Court and civil rights, democracy and participation, comparative theories.

## SUBJECT COMBINATIONS

Politics can be studied in combination with a wide variety of other subjects. In particular, it fits well with History, Sociology, Classics, Law, Religious Studies, Geography, Economics, Business Studies, Criminology, Psychology and Environmental Science.

