

Politics Learning Journey

The Politics Department at S. Peter's prides themselves on stretching the pupils, challenging their political beliefs, arming the students with the skills to consistently challenge ideas, and produce their own substantiated arguments.

Intent

The Politics department at S. Peter's aims to develop our students analytical skills and to ensure that they have an enquiring mind. These skills will be supported by the ability to present a substantiated argument in an eloquent manner, whether that be verbally, or in a written format.

Beyond this, we want our learners to use the knowledge taught in class to develop their own political beliefs and look to get involved in Politics outside of school.

Implementation

Our curriculum has been specifically chosen as it gives a fantastic grounding in Political Science, and complements any degree in Politics.

As a department, we frequently reflect on our practice and pedagogical findings to ensure that pupils enjoy our subject while making progress.

We also take the students to the seat of British political power, in Westminster, for a visit to ensure they can be inspired to pursue a career in Politics.

Impact

Pupils leave S. Peter's with strong academic results, which has led to many of our previous students continuing their study of Politics (or closely related courses) at University.



Mix of Revision activities (e.g. revision question walls; low stakes testing; revision hexagons; revision booklets; etc.)



University/
Apprentice
ship



Revision and Preparation

Practice Papers (walkie talkie; individual questions; full exam papers; etc.)



Relationship between the branches of the US Government

Relationship with the other branches of government.

Informal sources of power

Role of the President

Interpretations of the power of Congress

US vs UK parties; Electoral systems – Presidential elections

Third Parties

Democrats vs. Republicans

Rights protection US vs. UK

Interpretations on the Presidency



YEAR 13

The concept of power in Westminster and Liberalism

What are the major strands and what do they believe?

Nature; Principles; Sources of the US Constitution

Interpretations of the relationships within Congress

Pros and cons of their constitution

What is Socialism?

The nature of Congress

History of civil rights in America; race in America today

Roles of each of the houses of Congress

Rights over time (diff. presidents)

Voting rights

What is feminism?

What are the key terms of Feminism?

Amending the Constitution

Origins + Composition of SCOTUS

Judicial roles – activism vs. restraint

What are the key terms of Socialism?

Agreements and disagreements between the strands; key thinkers and what they argue

How is the law made in the USA?

Congressional oversight.



The concept of power in Westminster and Liberalism

What are the key terms of Liberalism?

Where does sovereignty lie in contemporary UK politics?

Agreements and disagreements between the strands + key thinkers

What are the key terms of Conservatism?

ECHR

Relationship between the UK and EU – EU policy making and directives + Brexit

Parliamentary sovereignty



Relationship with the EU + Conservatism

What is Liberalism?

Essay practice

What are the major strands and what do they believe?

What is conservatism?

What does the EU do



What does democracy mean in the UK? How do citizens engage with the political system?

What do they stand for? Has this changed?

Party systems

Sources of the constitution

How has the Constitution been reformed in the past – New Labour and Coalition

Structure and the role of each of the Houses of Parliament

Comparing the powers of each of the Houses

How are laws made?

Composition of our Supreme Court today – pale, male, and stale

Is our Supreme Court independent and neutral

Relationship between the Supreme Court and the other branches?

The three main political parties

Why are some pressure groups more successful than others?

Has democracy changed in the UK in recent years?

Voter behaviour (including 3 Case Studies – 1979, 1997, 2019)

Is there a better way of choosing our MPs (electoral systems)

How do we elect our representatives?

Is Britain a "rights-based culture"?



What powers do citizens have and how has that changed over time?

The role of pressure groups

Defining democracy

Letting the people choose (referendums)

Thinktanks, lobbyists, celebrities + their impact on decision making

Expanding Suffrage and role of Suffragettes



YEAR 12

