

GCSE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS SNAPSHOT

OVERVIEW

The study of Government and Politics will encourage students to develop their interest in politics and knowledge of how political systems operate.

A qualification in Government and Politics can help prepare students for a career in government, law, business, finance, research, journalism, the media and/or charitable organisations.

SPECIFICATION SUMMARY

Unit 1 is assessed by a written examination. In this unit, students explore the importance of elections in a democracy and the different ways in which young people can make their voices heard. They explore different views on issues such as education, the economy and immigration, as well as considering the role of the media in reporting political events and influencing public opinion.

Unit 2 is assessed by a written examination. This unit allows students to explore a variety of organisations that operate on a global scale and how they respond to important global issues such as conflict resolution and migration. Students consider the local and national response of governments, individuals and groups to political issues and evaluate the effectiveness of their actions.

BENEFITS TO STUDENTS

Studying Government and Politics gives students a greater insight into how the political process works and how decisions made in government can affect their lives.

Students develop their understanding of the political world both locally and nationally. They consider global issues such as conflict resolution, poverty and immigration.

CROSS-CURRICULAR SKILLS, THINKING SKILLS AND PERSONAL CAPABILITIES THAT WILL BE DEVELOPED

Students can develop skills, for example:

- **Communication** – participating in discussions and debates; analysing different viewpoints and opinions;
- **Using Mathematics** – exploring the features of different electoral systems; using election statistics to interpret voting trends;
- **Using ICT** – using ICT to access and present information on news stories;
- **Self-Management** – planning and organising work to complete tasks; evaluating responses to practice exam questions; meeting deadlines;
- **Working with Others** – discussing different views when taking part in group discussions; working in groups to consider policy differences of various political parties; and
- **Problem Solving** – analysing relationships between politicians and the media; formulating views on key political issues; and exploring policy differences.

UNIQUE FEATURES OF THIS SPECIFICATION/ IMPROVEMENTS MADE

This is a new qualification at GCSE level. Studying GCSE Government and Politics will enable students to be well prepared for the study of Government and Politics at advanced level.

Students can sit Unit 1 at the end of the first year of study if they wish, or they may choose to sit both units at the end of the second year of study.



CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

CONTENT	CONTENT SUMMARY	ASSESSMENT	WEIGHTING
Unit 1: Democracy in Action	This unit covers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Political ideas and concepts• Decision-making in a democracy• Elections and voting in a democracy• Political parties in a democracy• Political information in a democracy• Taking action in a democracy	External written examination 1 hour 30 mins	50%
Unit 2: International Politics in Action	This unit covers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interdependence• The European Union• Conflict and its resolution• Conflict resolution in practice – Northern Ireland• Migration	External written examination 1 hour 30 mins	50%

SUPPORTING YOU

The following resources are available to support this specification:

- our Government and Politics microsite at www.ccea.org.uk and
- specimen assessment materials.

We also intend to provide:

- past papers;
- mark schemes;
- Chief Examiner's reports;
- planning frameworks;
- centre support visits;
- support days for teachers; and
- exemplification of examination performance.

CONTACT US

If you have a query or require advice or guidance, please contact:

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SPECIFICATION SNAPSHOT



For first teaching from September 2017
For first assessment in Summer 2018
For first award in Summer 2019