

A level Subject Information

Subject: Government and Politics

What the subject is about:

The study of Government and Politics encourages young people to develop knowledge and understanding of the political systems in which they live. It involves discussion, debate and disagreement. Some view it as being about conflict and the resolution of conflict. Students will develop a greater awareness of current affairs.

Course content and assessment schedule:

Paper	Duration	Season when first taken	Brief outline of main content. (Identify where coursework or practical forms part or all of a module)
1	1 hour 15 minutes	January Year 13	<u>The Government and Politics of Northern Ireland:</u> Government of NI since 1994-direct rule/NI Assembly The Northern Irish political parties The Northern Irish electoral systems
2	1 hour 45 minutes	Summer Year 13	<u>The British Political Process</u> Inter-relationships of executive, legislature and judiciary UK executive in-depth The European Union
3	2 hours 15 minutes	January Year 14	<u>The UK and the USA</u> Constitution Legislatures Executives
4	1 hour 30 minutes	Summer Year 14	<u>Political Power</u> Theories of Marxism, pluralism, elitism and feminism. Factors involved in the exercise of political power including legitimacy, coercion, and stability.

Entry requirements:

Compulsory GCSE subjects	Grade	Desirable subjects	Grade
English	B/A	History	B/A

Qualities / skills needed to succeed in the course

Students must

- Have an interest in current affairs and the world around them.
- Be able to work independently and carry out research.
- Have an excellent standard of English and be competent in essay writing skills/extracting and organising relevant material from a range of sources.