

Transition work for A level Politics

Reading, watching and listening

*As you should know from reading the Politics section of the school site you are going to be studying UK and US Politics. This is therefore the time to get 'hooked' on UK politics. You can do this by committing to reading a **QUALITY** newspaper every day (Times, Guardian or Telegraph) or watching Channel 4 News every night. This doesn't mean you have to subscribe, all of the newspapers will allow you a certain amount of access online and the Guardian doesn't even have a paywall!*

If you're feeling intellectually ambitious the News Statesman & Spectator have special rates for students or alternatively they will deliver updates free of charge to your email. Read as much as you can!

There are also plenty of political podcasts to listen to. For the UK try out Newscast, The News Agents and The Rest is Politics. For the USA all of the following are excellent; Americast, The News Agents USA, FiveThirtyEight Politics, The NPR Politics Podcast, The Daily (NYT), The Run-Up and Checks and Balances from The Economist. For political theory and ideologies David Runciman's Talking Politics: HISTORY OF IDEAS.

Activity over several weeks

As a result of your reading you should be able to make notes around the following for discussion in September:

Research the Illegal Migration Bill currently being proposed by the government. This will be important research on our 'rights' topic which kicks off our study of UK Politics.

Find out about opposition to the bill from certain pressure groups (what are they? Which ones?) Problems encountered by the Conservative Government as the bill has made its passage through the House of Commons and especially the House of Lords. Why is this so controversial?

Find out who is the current leader of the Opposition. Watch Prime Minister's Question Time on Wednesday at 12 O'Clock or previous sessions from the last few months. Is he good at questioning the Government? What do the commentators in the newspapers think of his performance?

Please do as much as you can to get interested in Politics rather than write copious notes. You won't understand that much , that's why you've chosen to do the course! We look forward to seeing you in September along with the text book you need to buy which is :

Pearson Edexcel 2nd edition: UK Government and Politics, Political Ideas and US Government and Politics 2023.