

## **Transition work for A level Politics**

### **Reading and watching**

*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 Economist and Spectator have special rates for students or alternatively they will deliver updates free of charge to your email. Read as much as you can!*

### **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 new Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill currently being proposed by the government. This will be important research on our 'rights' topic which kicks off our study of UK Politics. Also find out about opposition to the bill and the protests around the country known collectively as 'kill the bill'.*

*Criticism of the Conservative Government regarding its handling of the Coronavirus crisis. Concentrate in particular on Conservative MPs who are not members of the government (known as back benchers) who are opposing the government.*

*How are the Scottish and Welsh governments differing to the Johnson government in their response to the COVID crisis?*

*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?*

*Find out why the former Health Secretary, Matt Hancock, had to resign. Was he right to do so?*

### ***Additional work***

*If you are feeling ambitious and want to do some background reading on the course, try to borrow or buy 'Who governs Britain?' by Anthony King. This will form a good background to many aspects of the course.*

*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.*