

St. John's Senior School



Subject: Politics.

**Form: Lower 6th
Term: Autumn 2020**

WEEK	WEEK BEGINNING	TOPIC
1	7 th September	Introduction to the course and the significance of politics in contemporary society. Illustrating the emergence of democracy in the UK
2	14 th September	The importance of major legislation to widen the franchise which include: 1832 Great Reform Act 1918-1969 Representation of the Peoples Act
3	21 st September	Understanding how pressure groups operate in representative democracy in the UK and covering their methods/tactics and access points.
4	28 th September	Discuss the importance of the Human Rights Act 1998 and its scope. Consider the calls for a UK based Bill of Rights to replace the HRA
5	5 th October	Define the role carried out by political parties, their main features and the functions they perform in a representative democracy.
6	12 th October	MINI TEST WEEK
7	19 th October	The core background to the Labour Party and understanding the ideas and policies which cover the economy, law and order, welfare and foreign policy. The core background to the Conservative Party and understanding the ideas and policies which cover the economy, law and order, and foreign policy.
HALF - TERM		
8	2 nd November	The core background to the Liberal Democrat Party and understanding the ideas and policies which cover the economy, law and order, welfare and foreign policy.
9	9 th November	How unified are the major parties and what divisions are within them?
10	16 th November	How does FPTP operate, the core electoral mechanics single member – simple plurality Alternative systems in use in the UK and an appreciation of their operations (AMS, STV and SV)
11	23 rd November	Referenda in modern democracies.
12	30 th November	Wider reasons based on social factors which impact on voter preferences – age, gender, region and ethnicity over time.
13	7 th December	Understanding and defining the media – press, TV social media etc.

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Term: Spring 2021**

WEEK	WEEK BEGINNING	TOPIC
1	4 th January	MOCK EXAMS (5th – 6th)
2	11 th January	Tracing the progress of constitutional reform since 1997, divided into the three identified historical periods.
3	18 th January	Examination of the different aspects of devolution in London, Wales, Northern Ireland, and Scotland.
4	25 th January	Examination of the benefits of compromise between reform and continuity since 1997, and the disadvantages of further extension.
5	1 st February	Definitions of the specific roles of the Prime Minister and of the Cabinet, and the importance of the relationship between the two.
6	8 th February	Definition and contrast between the two kinds of ministerial responsibility.
HALF - TERM		
7	22 nd February	Overview of the main factors affecting Prime Ministerial and Cabinet relations such as the size of the majority, Prime Ministerial popularity, political unity, major events.
8	29 th February	Consideration of the 1945-1997 Prime Minister in detail.
9	9 th March	Consideration of the function of legislation, scrutiny of the executive, providing ministers, and debate, and the specific House of Commons function of representation of the electorate.
10	6 th March	Consideration of the Lords' ability to scrutinise legislation based on a lack of majority, additional expertise, and additional time.
11	13 rd March	Examination of the work of an example select committee, such as the Public Accounts Committee, with a focus on their powers

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Term: Summer 2021**

WEEK	WEEK BEGINNING	TOPIC
1	20 th April	The move from the House of Lords to the Supreme Court, and the reasons behind this.
2	27 th April	Background of the four freedoms of people, capital, goods and service of the EU.
3	4 th May	Classical Liberalism and its key thinkers and ideas.
4	11 th May	Modern Liberalism and its key thinkers and ideas.
5	18 th May	Modern Liberalism.
HALF - TERM		
6	1 st June	Modern Liberalism.
7	8 th June	END OF YEAR EXAMS (1st- Lower 6th)
8	15 th June	Neo Liberalism.
9	22 nd June	Core values of Conservatism.
10	29 th June	Traditional conservatism.
11	6 th July	One Nation Conservatism.