



CLAIRE'S COURT
SIXTH FORM

Curriculum Statement

Year 12 - Politics
2025 – 2026

Your place to *aim high*

Politics

Why study politics?

Studying A-level Politics will provide insight into political beliefs central to an understanding of the modern world. It also develops analytical and evaluative skills in relation to interesting topics prevalent in today's turbulent political climate. Understand why Johnson had to resign, what Brexit actually means for the UK's relationship with Europe and just how powerful is Joe Biden as the leader of the Free World. You will also study the key ideologies that underpin our politics including liberalism, conservatism, socialism and the varying shades of ecologism

Studying this subject will develop your understanding of structures of authority and power, how political systems differ, and enable you to interpret, evaluate and comment on the nature of politics and government. You will also develop a range of transferable analytical, debating and communication skills - all of which are valuable in a wide range of careers. Example degree courses which generally require or accept Politics A-level include Politics, Economics, Journalism, Law, International Relations, History and Social Policy.

We follow the AQA specification found at [AQA | A-level | Politics | Specification at a glance](#). This qualification is linear. Students will sit all their exams at the end of Y13

There are three broad areas of study in this specification, which are examined at the end of two years:

Paper 1: The government and politics of the UK,

This covers the nature and sources of the UK constitution and questions whether it can still be called an uncodified constitution, the structure of parliament and how the government conducts its business. It also encompasses a study of key institutions such as parliament, the prime minister and his cabinet, the judiciary and the role of devolution. Students will also examine the ideas of democracy and direct participation whilst considering the role of political parties, pressure groups and the EU.

Paper 2: The government and politics of the USA and comparative politics

Government and politics of the USA is divided into eight sections. Each has a particular focus but their interrelationships must be understood to appreciate the complexities of the system. This includes the creation and role of the US constitution and the checks and balances that prevent an overmighty

president from dominating the government of America as well as a comparison between the American and UK systems of government.

Paper 3: Political ideas.

This unit comprises core political ideologies from Liberalism under Locke to Burke's conservatism and Marx's socialism alongside the increasingly current and important ideology of ecologism.

Assessment (A level at the end of Year 13)

Paper 1: Government and Politics 33.3%

Examination: 2 hours

Questions: mixture of medium length 'explain' - style questions, extract based essays and evaluative essays

Paper 2: The Government and politics of the USA and Comparative politics. 33.3%

Examination: 2 hours

Questions: mixture of medium length 'explain' - style questions, extract based essays and evaluative essays

Paper 3: Political Ideas 33%

Examination: 2 hours

Questions: mixture of medium length 'explain' - style questions, extract based essays and evaluative essays

Mastery

At Claires Court School politics students will acquire a deep, long term, secure and adaptable learning for all, with extension of able students ensuring solid lifelong love of learning. Teaching is structured to ensure that students confidently use appropriate technical vocabulary and are able to express themselves and their ideas fluently demonstrating a confident application of key concepts such as political ideologies and knowledge of how our political systems operate. These skills are transferable to other academic study as well as real world situations. They will demonstrate their knowledge and their analytical and evaluative skills consistently without reminders evidencing the resilience of their learning and their ability to participate in society and share their learning with others.

For further information please contact:

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