



**Stantonbury School**  
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## Social Sciences Government and Politics Curriculum Statement

“The purpose of the social sciences is to equip them with the ability to challenge, become critical thinkers through developing awareness and understanding of the wider world in which they live”.

### Vision and values

The vision for Government and Politics is to develop an understanding of the political institutions that shape both the country and wider world in which we live, as well as developing a range of skills that will allow pupils to develop beyond Sixth Form. Pupils are encouraged to explore various topics across the political systems of both the United Kingdom and United States through varied and inclusive tasks. Pupils are encouraged to address current topics and issues, working collaboratively with other pupils to build a picture of the current political climate. A safe, supportive environment is established to develop a lifelong love of learning through the appreciation of scholarly sources as well as the formulation of their own interpretation on various political issues.

The curriculum followed emphasises the development of academic writing that will assist pupils at the next stage in their educational journey. Pupils are supported in building their own interpretations on issues in a balanced manner. Note taking and public speaking skills are developed throughout the course which will help pupils in higher education settings. We aim to reflect the various social and cultural backgrounds of pupils through selecting varied topics pupils can relate to and are able to apply their personal experiences to. Pupils are encouraged to develop their own political perspective while learning about several ideologies that can be related to the political world today.

The core values of the faculty for our diverse community of students include providing enjoyment and success for all students. We actively demonstrate and help students understand the importance of critical objectivity. The faculty offers a well-structured and controlled learning environment, allowing students to experience a range of opportunities throughout their studies. The team aims to enhance opportunities for students to be active citizens through enrichment and extra-curricular activities and trips. We encourage all students to take calculated risks and make mistakes as we see this as an integral part of effective learning in the classroom. The team involves students in a diversity of activities that enables effective learning to take place. Our regular Faculty Student Voice reflection and feedback provide opportunities to support our students further.





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## Planning and sequencing

The Government and Politics curriculum is designed to link theoretical concepts to real world examples that allow pupils to make secure links between concept and case study. Furthermore, pupils are encouraged to engage with case studies via different media to provide them with further examples that can be used to strengthen their subject knowledge. Further to this, pupils can develop world views from a range of ideological perspectives and narratives.

The Government and Politics curriculum embeds the skills required to be successful within lessons, developing analysis and academic writing skills that will allow them to progress within Sixth Form as well as later in their learner journey. These skills are mastered through a variety of strategies that the pupils are guided and encouraged through by experienced practitioners who adapt within the curriculum framework to suit the needs of all pupils to ensure they achieve their personal potential.

## Implementation

The Government and Politics curriculum is delivered across various mediums from face-to-face learning and digital platforms. All lessons follow an agreed structure with Do Now tasks being completed at the beginning of each lesson to facilitate retrieval and consolidation of learning. The teachers will scaffold and model extended pieces of writing at Key Stage 5 to support our students in tackling the examination board success criteria, while still allowing for the pupils to build their own academic voice. The teachers promote the climates for learning criteria to help students take control of their education. This offers the chance to praise and build good working relationships with our students enabling positive work ethos that offers success into their adult life and ensuring all students have equal access to opportunities and participation through using a variety of teaching methods, as it allows for inclusivity, providing equal opportunity for our students to achieve their personal academic goals.

Within Government and Politics pupils are encouraged to establish narratives within their writing. Additionally, politics is promoted to be an ever-changing field where the “right” answer does not exist; rather many answers can be provided alongside well cultivated arguments. This allows pupils to be free to build and dismantle arguments made based on changes to the world around them. Pupils build these arguments using flipped learning activities that culminate opportunities to share opinions on various topics in both structured and unstructured debates.





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To help prepare and inspire our students for adult life socially and emotionally, we support them with the tools to become better balanced individuals in all areas and aspects of their lives. We support the school marking important anniversaries and provide students with a more holistic view of important dates such as Holocaust Memorial Day, Black History Month and Remembrance Day. Trips are important through offering students an enriched “Stantonbury Experience”. As a faculty we are passionate about bringing the curriculum to life through a range of different experiences including various Social Sciences trips to London and overseas residential trips to Washington DC and Poland.

