



NOTTINGHAM GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL

GDST
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

SIXTH FORM CURRICULUM GUIDE

GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

AQA

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

At least grade 6 in GCSE English Language or History.

It is not necessary to have studied this subject at GCSE in order to take it at A Level.



We may not always like politicians and the things that governments do, but the business of politics touches every aspect of our lives, and whilst we might criticise governments for some of their policies, it has to be better than having no government at all. Society just would not function without an elected body to decide, say, what taxes will be levied, how those taxes will be spent on things like health and education or how the country will be defended. Regardless of whether government makes you feel angry or reassured, it is worth having a knowledge of how the whole process of an elected government works.

Government and Politics will appeal to students who have a genuine interest in current affairs, combined with an ability to analyse and evaluate questions logically, using relevant supporting evidence. Students will review government policies at local, regional, national and European Union levels and examine the debates and controversies associated with these policies. Areas of study will include democracy in the UK, political parties, pressure groups, Parliament, Prime Minister and Cabinet, the judiciary, economic policy, the welfare state, particularly state education and the NHS, law and order and civil liberties, environmental policies and the European Union.

THE COURSE

Government and Politics consists of 3 units all of which are examined at the end of Year 13.

Unit 1: Government and Politics of the UK

- The UK constitution
- Parliament, the Prime Minister and Cabinet
- The judiciary
- Elections, political parties and pressure groups
- Devolution
- The European Union

Assessment - 2 hour examination

Unit 2: Government and Politics of the USA

- The US constitution
- Legislature - Congress
- Executive - President
- The judiciary
- Elections and direct democracy
- Political parties, pressure groups and Civil Rights
- Comparison of UK and US

Assessment - 2 hour examination

Unit 3: Ideologies

- Liberalism
- Conservatism
- Socialism
- Feminism

Assessment - 2 hour examination

WHAT NEXT?

Whilst the course provides an excellent preparation for the study of subjects such as politics, international relations, law, economics and business at university, it also offers a strong grounding for those wishing to pursue many other subject areas at degree level particularly in the Humanities.

*Click here to watch the course introductory video
from Head of Humanities, Mr Richard Macfarlane and Mrs Jo Cann*

In order to join us in the Sixth Form, we require an average of grade 6 across eight GCSE subjects, including English and Mathematics. See individual subjects for any specific requirements for study at A Level.

For detailed course information on all of the A Level subjects please visit the AQA, Edexcel or OCR websites.

If you have any questions about any aspect of the admissions process, please call 0115 935 4444 or email admissions@not.gdst.net



Nottingham Girls' High School
9 Arboretum Street, Nottingham NG1 4JB
0115 941 7663 enquiries@not.gdst.net
nottinghamgirlshigh.gdst.net



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@NottmGirlsHigh

