



# Rushcliffe Spencer Academy

Everyone at Rushcliffe Spencer Academy will be given the chance to shine brightly

## Preparing for Year 12 : (Subject) Politics

We want you to begin your Year 12 Studies feeling prepared and confident. Therefore, you will be tasked with completing a range of Summer Work for the subjects you plan to continue studying. If you are unsure which subjects you might want to study, you should complete work for the subjects you are considering. This will help give you a “taster” of the subject, in place of the taster lessons you would normally be receiving face-to-face. **You should expect to spend a minimum of 15 hours on each subject.** All work should be submitted to your teacher in September, however not all will require feedback.

### Key knowledge and skills

*This will ensure you do not forget some of the skills and knowledge developed during your GCSE studies*

We will be looking at political ideologies, Politics in the UK and in the US

**Task A-** See how well you do on the quiz below on the USA as Geography will be relevant here too!!

<https://www.sporcle.com/games/g/states>

**Task B- Political Parties,** you must answer the following for **FOUR UK** political parties of your choice.

1. Name and symbol of Political Party
2. Leader of Party
3. Four key policies from the 2019 General Election.
4. Share of the vote/Number of seats won in 2019.

**Repeat all 4 points for the elections of 1979 and 1997.**

**Task C-** Find out the **composition of Parliament (The Houses of Commons)** and then write a short paragraph as to whether you think Parliament is **representative** or not backing your answer up with evidence.

1. How many MPs in total?
2. How many from each party?
3. How many men/women?
4. How many from ethnic backgrounds?
5. What's the age range and average age?
6. What about educational/employment background?
7. **How has this changed over the last 2 Parliaments/elections?**

### Key Skills Development

*This will focus on ensuring you are continuing to develop the skills needed, particularly during this longer break from school*

**Task E -** There will be lots of new vocabulary to learn so start a glossary- Here are the first lot of words to create definitions for that we can add to over the course:

- Constitution
- Devolution
- Direct democracy
- Federalism
- First Past the Post
- Legislature
- Mandate
- Manifesto
- Parliamentary sovereignty
- Partisan realignment
- Proportional Representation
- Referendum
- Statute law
- Unitary

**Task F -** Have a go at the quiz below to find out where you are on the political spectrum. There is some tricky vocab here so make sure you look it up when you need to and make a note/sketch of where you end up.



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8. Now do the same for the **House of Lords**

**Task D-** Read the attached article from 'Politics Review' magazine and complete the tasks at the end. Discuss the 'Quiz' questions at the end with someone in your house and we can discuss your ideas in class in September!

<https://www.politicalcompass.org/test>

## Research and/or wider reading

*An opportunity to begin looking in more depth at the subjects you have chosen, preparing for the greater independence required in Year 12*

1. We normally go on a visit to both Parliament and the **Supreme Court in London**. Find 10 interesting facts about the UK Supreme Court- Where is it? Who's in it? Any famous cases?

2. President Trump always kept us on our toes with his tweets- Play this game for fun!

<https://edition.cnn.com/interactive/2016/02/politics/trump-kanye-who-tweeted/>

Can you find at least 3 more classic Trump quotes about his position as president?

3. Make sure you read a newspaper/check a news website/watch the news at least once a week and find 4 articles linked to this course that interest you. Print them out or copy links and be ready to say why you chose them in September! \*There are some suggestions in the 'opportunities' box below

## Submission Pieces

*These pieces will be submitted to your teacher the first lesson in September for review and feedback*

1. 4 News articles to discuss
2. Political Parties information
3. Statistics and judgement paragraph on Parliament
4. Analysis of 2019 voting behaviour
5. 10 Facts about the UK Supreme Court.



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## Supra-Learning Opportunities

*Activities which will broaden your knowledge and understanding of the wider world of your subject. Things to inspire and enjoy when you have a moment!*

### Watch

The news!!

(iplayer)

Have I got news for you

Andrew Marr- History of Modern Britain

Trump Takes on the World

(NetFlix)

Vice

Suffragette

The Thick of it

House of Cards

Knock the House Down (documentary)

13<sup>th</sup> (documentary)

(All 4)

The Deal

Brexit- The Uncivil war

(Amazon Prime)

Bowling for Columbine (documentary)

(Youtube)

Long Walk to Finchley

Inside the Commons

### Podcasts

The Rest is Politics

The News Agents USA

### Read

The Guardian, (Financial) Times or Telegraph newspapers

Private Eye

New Statesman

Get the BBC/ New York Times/Washington Post app

Animal Farm/1984- George Orwell

Fire and Fury- Michael Wolff

Atlas Shrugged - Ayn Rand

This website makes a weekly quiz- so have a go!

<https://www.tutor2u.net/politics>



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