



We're looking forward to welcoming you in September! Please note that this document has been created by staff to help you prepare to start your studies at sixth form. The work you produce from this will form the basis of a discussion in your first lessons with your teachers.

At the end of this document, there is a review grid for you to complete every time you engage with some preparatory reading this summer.

List of key topics you will study in Year 12:

<p>Government and Politics of the UK</p> <p>Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• British Constitution• Role of Parliament• Prime Minister and Cabinet• Ministerial Responsibilities• Judiciary — inc. Supreme Court• Devolution — Scotland, Ireland, Wales and England <p>Politics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Democracy and participation• Elections and referendums• Political Parties• Pressure groups• European Union	<p>Government and Politics of the USA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Constitutional framework• Comparing constitutional arrangements• The legislative branch — Congress• The executive branch — the President• Comparing the UK and US executives• The judicial branch of government• Comparing the judiciaries• The electoral process and direct democracy• US Political parties• Comparing Electoral and party systems• Pressure groups and comparisons• Civil Rights• Comparing Civil Rights

Recommended research list:

Podcasts/radio:

- The Rest is Politics
- The News Agents
- Newcast
- Political Currency
- BBC Any Questions
- BBC Today Programme (morning news on BBC Radio 4)

- LBC (radio station)
- The Rest is Politics US
- The News Agents USA
- Americast

Broadsheet newspapers:

- The Telegraph/The Sunday Times
- The Times/The Sunday Times
- The Guardian
- The Observer
- The I (low cost newspaper and quick read)
- The Financial Times

Magazines:

- The New Statesman
- Politics Review
- The Week
- The Spectator
- Private Eye
- Time

Websites:

- News websites: BBC News, Google News, Apple News, Independent, Guardian, Sky News, ITV News (other newspaper websites tend to be subscription-based but often have free trials/free article limits) • Simple Politics (Instagram)
- www.historyandpolicy.org

Books:

- How Westminster Works and Why it Doesn't — Ian Dunt
- Politics on the Edge — Rory Stewart
- All Out War — Tim Shipman

TV:

- BBC News, ITV News, Channel 4 News, Sky News etc.
- BBC - Question Time
- BBC - Sunday with Laura Kuennsberg
- BBC - Have I Got News for You?
- BBC - Laura Kuennsberg — State of Chaos
- Channel 4 — The Rise and Fall of Boris Johnson
- Channel 4 — Brexit: The Uncivil War

Tasks

Please work through these tasks over the summer.

1. Look at the list of topics you will be studying next year above. Look up definitions for any words you don't recognise.
2. A big determiner of your success in Politics is how up to date with the news you are. Keep a log of your engagement with the news over the summer. You should keep a log of political events in the UK and US over the summer weekly. You can keep this in your own notes. It should look something like this:

Date	Key events in UK Politics	Key events in US Politics

3. Research the current Labour governments track record. What have been the successes and failures of their first 2 years in power? Be ready to give an opinion on how well you think they have done.
4. Listen to 2-4 podcast episodes of The Rest is Politics (UK) and use the review grid below to summarise what you learned. These can be on a topic of your choice.
5. Pick 2-4 opinion articles from the following link (try to pick articles that link to the topics you study) and complete a review grid: <https://www.historyandpolicy.org/opinion-articles> -

<u>REVIEW GRID</u> Name of podcast/article:	
<p>REWORD IT: Use this space to look up any words you don't know on an online dictionary/thesaurus</p>	<p>CRUNCH IT: Identify 6 keywords in this podcast/article/source. Say why you have picked these words.</p> <p>1.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>5.</p> <p>6.</p>
<p>SUMMARISE IT</p> <p>Summarise 3 key learning points or arguments in this podcast/article/source:</p>	<p>REVIEW IT:</p> <p>Would you recommend this resource to another student?</p> <p>Why/why not?</p> <p>What was your key takeaway from this article?</p> <p>What questions do you still have?</p>

