



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 Kuenssberg
- BBC - Have I Got News for You?
- BBC - Laura Kuenssberg — State of Chaos
- Channel 4 — The Rise and Fall of Boris Johnson
- Channel 4 — Brexit: The Uncivil War

Tasks

There are two areas we'd like you to prepare over the summer. The first is based on reading the news about stories related to UK and US government. The second is to read for a base knowledge of the government and politics in the UK.

- Find, read and make notes on news articles about the government of the UK and US. Be prepared to share what you found interesting about these stories. Subscribe to Rich Young's Substack to receive updates on news stories related to A Level Politics: https://alevelpoliticsthisweek.substack.com/p/a-level-politics-this-week-87c?utm_source=post-email-title&publication_id=4057747&post_id=165983851&utm_campaign=email-post-title&isFreemail=true&r=319lgj&triedRedirect=true&utm_medium=email

- Watch the initial speeches by the Prime Minister and Cabinet ministers following the general election. Write a review of what they've said and how they come across.
- Listen to 2 podcast episode 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.
- Pick 2 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> -

REVIEW GRID	
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>