Why study this subject?
The Politics A Level course allows students to develop knowledge and an informed understanding of contemporary political structures and issues in their historical context, both within the United Kingdom (UK) and globally. It allows students to develop a critical awareness of the changing nature of politics and the relationships between political ideas, institutions and processes and possess an informed understanding of the influences and interests which have an impact on decisions in government and politics.

What happens in lessons?
Politics is taught by Miss E Mace & Miss L Argent. Students are often tasked with reading, source exploration and extended writing to draw links between themes which appear on the course.

In year 12 students will study two components. Component 1—UK Politics— is made up of the following topics: democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media (core ideologies). Component 2—UK Government— is made up of the following topics: the constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and executive, relationships between the branches (non-core Ideologies).

At A Level, students will study the above in addition to linking these concepts to core political ideas of conservatism, liberalism, socialism and feminism. In addition, they will also study Component 3—Comparative Politics—where students will have the opportunity to study Global Politics.

Course Assessment
Year 12
UK Politics
UK Government
Year 13 A-Level
Paper 1: UK Politics, Core Ideology—2 hours (33%)
Paper 2: UK Government, Non-Core Ideology—2 hours (33%)
Paper 3: Comparative Global Politics – 2 hours (33%)

What to do afterwards
The Politics course offers many transferable skills, for example, critical thinking and decision making and reasoning skills. Students who study Politics could go onto study a range of subjects at university, for example, International Relations, Politics, Journalism or Economics.

Reading around the subject
- Politics UK (7th edition) by Bill Jones
- British and European Political Issues (2nd edition) by Neil McNaughton
- Global Politics: A New Introduction by Jenny Edkins and Maja Zehfuss

Subjects which work well with Politics include; History, English, Sociology, Psychology, Economics &