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| **Bullers Wood School**  **Sixth Form**  ***Be part of our success story*** |  |

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**Government and Politics A Level**

**Why study this subject?**

Studying Government and Politics enables you to understand how the UK and US political systems operate today and how they have been shaped by changing historical contexts.  You will develop the ability to formulate and argue your opinions on some of the controversial issues that are the cause of political debate today, and tackle questions such as whether political reform is needed. If you enjoy current affairs, debating ideas and learning about the world around you, an A Level in Government and Politics will both interest and challenge you.  

**Entry Requirements**

Students need to gain five A\*-C grade GCSEs including Mathematics at grade 4, grade 5 in English Language and English Literature and a B grade in History if taken. An interest in current affairs is helpful.

**Content**

**Unit 1 – Government and Politics of the UK**

Includes the study of the Constitution, the UK Parliament, the Prime Minister and the Cabinet, the judiciary, devolution, Elections, referendums and the EU.

**Unit 2 – The Government and Politics of the USA and Comparative Politics**

Includes the study of the Constitution, the three branches of government, Democracy, pressure groups and civil rights. Comparative politics is a direct comparison between the political systems of the UK and USA.

**Unit 3 – Political Ideas**

The study of the four ideologies (Conservativism, Liberalism, Socialism and one other which is likely to be Feminism) will enhance the students’ knowledge and understanding of politics, political debate and political issues in both the UK and the USA

**Assessment**

All units are assessed by external examination. There is no coursework component to Government and Politics A Level. There are three separate two hour examinations, which are a mixture of medium length essay answers, source questions and long essay answers.

**Future courses and possible careers**

Recent students of Government and Politics A Level have gone on to study a range of subjects including Politics, Law, History, Archaeology and PPE at a variety of prestigious institutions, such as the London School of Economics, Warwick University, Manchester University, Nottingham University and Durham University, to name but a few.