**Preparing for Transition from Key Stage 4 to Key Stage 5**

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| **Subject** | **Qualification** |
| **Politics** | **A Level** |
| **Recommended Reading Materials** | **Recommended Websites** |
| * Essentials of UK Politics, A level (5th edition) - Andrew Heywood * The Oxford Very Short Introduction Guides e.g. to Politics, Conservatism, Liberalism * Global Politics-Robert Murphy   British Politics: A very short introduction General introduction to British Politics - former MP Anthony Wright   * The State We’re in - Will Hutton * A daily broadsheet newspaper - e.g. The Guardian, The Times, The Independent, The Financial Times * BBC Politics website [www.bbc.co.uk/news/politics](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/politics) * Weekly political magazines – e.g. New Statesman, The Spectator, The Economist | * A Level Politics Lots of resources and a useful blog <http://alevelpolitics.com/> * Edexcel Exam board site [Edexcel AS & A level Politics (2017) | Pearson qualifications](https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/politics-2017.html) * The Economist Articles on news and current affairs. Limited number of articles for free [www.economist.com](http://www.economist.com) * tutor2u Website aimed at Politics A Level. Amazing blog and exam prep. [www.tutor2u.net](http://www.tutor2u.net) |
| **Preparation Tasks** | **Recommended Research** |
| Task: Complete the preparation work in the transition booklet  <https://ctksfc.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/APAcademicCurriculum/_layouts/15/Doc.aspx?sourcedoc=%7B0193058C-B941-417A-9184-D0BEEEA3D821%7D&file=ALPoliticstransitiontasks.docx&action=default&mobileredirect=true>   * Complete the key words and concepts for Politics A level * Research your local MP and create a fact file on them – include when they became an MP, their majority, their party and what they have done to improve their constituency | **Newspapers:**  Broadsheets – tend to have more articles relevant to the A-Level Politics syllabus. Very good editorials. Often have good essays, especially in their weekend editions. It is important that you begin to familiarise yourself with certain journalists or columnists:   * • “The Times” (http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/) – leans to the right   • “The Daily Telegraph” (http://www.telegraph.co.uk/) – leans to the right  • “The Financial Times” (http://www.ft.com/home/uk) – primarily focused on economic issues but contains a significant number of relevant articles  • “The Independent” (http://www.independent.co.uk/) – serious news stories and articles  • “The Guardian” (http://www.guardian.co.uk/) – leans to the left.  Tabloids – will have fewer political news stories and articles, less in-depth analysis but important to know what the tabloids are saying because their readership is so much higher than the broadsheets, therefore they influence the politicians!!!  • “The i” (http://www.independent.co.uk/i/) – a bite-sized “Independent”. The cheapest daily newspaper!  • “The Sun” (http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/) – leans to the right. Most widely-read newspaper. Focuses on celebrity culture, rather than politics  • “The Daily Mail” (http://www.dailymail.co.uk/home/index.html) – definitely right-wing! Widely-read, therefore influential!  • “The Daily Express” (http://www.express.co.uk/home) – obsessed with the monarchy, Farage and Brexit!!!  • “The Daily Mirror” (http://www.mirror.co.uk/) – left-wing paper  **Twitter:** Virtually every MP and columnist has their own twitter feed. We particularly recommend @bbcnickrobinson. Each political party has a Twitter account as does the newspapers, periodicals and news channels. @BBCBreaking will keep you in touch with changing news stories; @gdnpoliticswire is The Guardian’s political Twitter feed; @C4Politics is recommended and Sky’s political editor’s Twitter @bethrigby as well as the BBC’s Laura Kuenssberg’s Twitter account  **News Channels:**  BBC News 24 and Sky News are probably the best 24-hours news channels to follow. BBC Parliament can be a little dry but at times it is worth watching!!!There are a large number of political TV programmes. You do not have to religiously watch every programme every night in their entirety but it is worth recording them so that you can pick out  relevant stories. We particularly recommend:  • Newsnight – current affairs programme. Weekday nights on BBC Two. 10:30-11:20  • Question Time – panel show. Thursday nights 10:35 on BBC1  • Peston – Wednesday nights, after the news, 10:45/11:00 on ITV  • The Andrew Marr Show – Sunday mornings, 9-10 on BBC1  Please remember that all these programmes are available on the i-player, as are all the recommended radio programmes  Podcasts  Politics Podcasts:   * [Stitcher – A-level politics podcast](https://www.stitcher.com/podcast/alevel-politics-podcast) * [Beyond Westminster](https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b00g6spw) * [BBC politics podcasts](https://www.bbc.co.uk/search?q=politics&suggid) * [The Westminster Hour](https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006s624) * [Politics.co.uk podcasts](https://www.politics.co.uk/podcast/) * [Guardian ‘politics weekly’ podcasts](https://www.theguardian.com/politics/series/politicsweekly) * [Going the way of the dodo](https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0006shh?fbclid=IwAR3FGxbFGXmWSMPCpdu6ftBBzM6JNeyM_DTXS84ab2Wnc6pAngkFjykDrcU) * [10 of the best podcasts](https://www.theguardian.com/tv-and-radio/2018/jun/17/political-podcasts-10-of-the-best) * [Takes from the lobby](https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m0006mr6) * [Learn out loud podcasts](https://www.learnoutloud.com/category_podcast.php?cat=0&catid=26&level=0&id=26&) |
| **Recommended trips or visits this Summer** | |
| * Trip to Parliament- https://www.parliament.uk/visiting/ * Supreme Court- https://www.supremecourt.uk/visiting/ * London Assembly - https://www.london.gov.uk/who-we-are/city-halls-buildings-and-squares/what-can-you-visit-city-hall * your local town hall. * [Karl Marx walking tour](https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/Attraction_Review-g186338-d3138780-Reviews-Karl_Marx_The_Walking_Tour-London_England.html) - TripAdvisor * British Library- https://www.bl.uk/collection-guides/oral-histories-of-politics-and-government# | |
| **Tasks to Complete** | |
| **Complete the Tasks in the second half of the transition booklet:** [**https://ctksfc.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/APAcademicCurriculum/\_layouts/15/Doc.aspx?sourcedoc=%7B0193058C-B941-417A-9184-D0BEEEA3D821%7D&file=ALPoliticstransitiontasks.docx&action=default&mobileredirect=true**](https://ctksfc.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/APAcademicCurriculum/_layouts/15/Doc.aspx?sourcedoc=%7B0193058C-B941-417A-9184-D0BEEEA3D821%7D&file=ALPoliticstransitiontasks.docx&action=default&mobileredirect=true)  **Task 1- Engaging with UK politics**  1. Fill in the template below of UK news stories a week for July and August  2. Complete the table about summarising the story and what is the impact on UK Politics  3. Use reputable news sources— <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk> is a good place to start. Use the recommended research- Newspapers, News Channels, watching current affairs programmes, Listening to the Radio     |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Date | News source | Summary of news | Impact on UK Politic | |  | News  Website  Newspaper  Radio  Podcast |  |  |   **There are some things your should do over the rest of term/summer:**  [**https://ctksfc.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/APAcademicCurriculum/\_layouts/15/Doc.aspx?sourcedoc=%7B16C66CA3-84AC-46D8-A5F9-EAFA97FA1862%7D&file=ALPoliticsKeepLearning.docx&action=default&mobileredirect=true**](https://ctksfc.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/APAcademicCurriculum/_layouts/15/Doc.aspx?sourcedoc=%7B16C66CA3-84AC-46D8-A5F9-EAFA97FA1862%7D&file=ALPoliticsKeepLearning.docx&action=default&mobileredirect=true)   * Listen to one podcast, choosing from recommended reading list * Watch one of the documentaries on rom recommended reading list * Choose one or two of the books suggested and read them.   **Task 2- Political Parties and their Policies**  Go to these links here for the UK’s three major parties:  <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/election-2019-50524262>  <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/election-2019-50501411>  <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/election-2019-50459123>  These links summarise their key manifesto policies in the 2019 general election, which you may remember voting in at school. I would like you to choose a few policies of your choose and explain below why you support OR do not support that policy. You must choose at least 1 policy from each manifesto to discuss your agreement to or opposition to (therefore compulsory is to do 3) – if you want to extend yourself and go further, you can do more than 3 by copying and pasting the spaces I have provided  **Task 3- Making a Case:** Make a case for and against a particular issue. Politics at A level will require you to make judgements about issues.   * You need to research the issue and look for arguments and evidence for and against * Then you need to write some paragraphs to outline your arguments for/against case for the issue of: S*hould England lower the voting age from 18 to 16?* | |