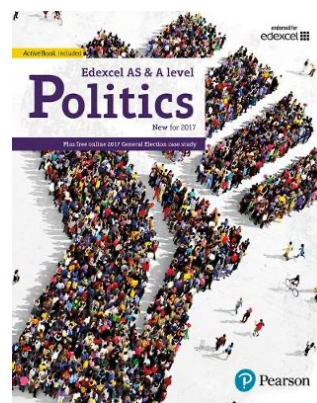# A-level Politics transition project

Welcome to A-level Politics at Woking College! At Woking we follow the **Edexcel Specification** and will study a variety of topics, including:

Voting behaviour & the media   The Prime Minister
Political Parties   Parliament
Political Ideologies   Comparative politics: USA

https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/politics-2017.html

We use the Edexcel/Pearson textbook for the whole two-year course:
Click here to view the textbook

Almost everybody who begins the A-level Politics course with us has never studied a formal Politics course before, so starting from scratch can be a bit daunting, but remember you are all in the same boat!

Small step-up – builds on knowledge & skills you already have

Larger step-up - builds new knowledge & skills

Complex ideas & concepts

To help prepare you for a new course, choose from the investigations outlined below. The number of 'ballot boxes' next to each task indicates the level of difficulty of each task. These mirror the progression which you will experience over the course.

We'd like you to bring your investigations to enrolment in August, but if you'd like to get in touch about the project, get some feedback or find out more about the course, please email Gareth Jones at gjo@woking.ac.uk

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UK Government – researching how it works
Research an aspect of the UK government. Create some sort of presentation explaining how it works, using the links provided and any other information you can find.

Either

1. **What is the role of the UK Parliament?**
https://www.parliament.uk/about/how/role/

https://www.parliament.uk/about/how/role/scrutiny/

https://www.parliament.uk/about/how/laws/

Or

2. **Why did Theresa May fail as Prime Minister?**

https://www.tutor2u.net/politics/blog/theresa-mays-legacy-by-michael-cockerell

https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/politicsandpolicy/two-troubled-premierships/

https://www.tutor2u.net/politics/reference/general-election-2017-leadership-image-and-policy-the-conservative-party-campaign

UK Politics - Evaluating a key question

Write a discursive essay (arguments for and against) answering one of the questions below. Try to write somewhere between 500 and 800 words.

Either

3. **'The Conservatives mainly rely on the votes of older people.' To what extent do you agree with this statement?**

Tip: Give two sides of the argument. Give all the evidence for 'age' and then compare it with other reasons why certain people voted Conservative last time.

Start with this simple interactive game guessing which % of people votes which way:
file:///C:/Users/DR/Downloads/CBP-8749.pdf

Gather evidence from below to help you create both sides of the argument:
https://www.tutor2u.net/politics/blog/how-britain-voted-at-the-2019-general-election

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/election-2019-50765773

file:///C:/Users/DR/Downloads/CBP-8749.pdf

Or

4. **'The media played the biggest role in determining the outcome of the 2019 UK election.' Evaluate this view.**

Consider **at least three** of these factors that affected how people voted: their own age, where in the country they lived, party leaders, party positions on 'Brexit', other party policies, each party's campaign strategy.
Compare each factor with the role of the media.

Use the links below to gather evidence before you write up your answer:

https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m000f5rr (you will asked to create a log in for this one – it's free)

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/election/2019/results (an interactive map of the results)

file:///C:/Users/DR/Downloads/CBP-8749.pdf (a full analysis of the results from the House of Commons)

https://www.tutor2u.net/politics/blog/how-britain-voted-at-the-2019-general-election

https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/mar/16/right-new-strongmen-winning-everywhere-brazil-hungary-rightwing