Curriculum Overview Politics Year 13

Politics - Year 13 Unit 1. Election Processes in the USA: September - December				
What are we learning?	**What knowledge, understanding and skills will we gain?**	**Evaluation and assessment methods**	**Implementation**	**What additional resources are available?**
The electoral systems used in USA The main characteristics of elections and campaigns	**Knowledge**- types of elections; election processes; factors that determine success or failure; candidate selection; electoral college; campaign finance; voting behaviour **Understanding** Students should be aware of the impact of different electoral processes on outcome and the implications of candidate selection; Analyse the electoral college and evaluate the need for reform; analyse and understand the voting behaviour of different groups. **Skills-** Define key terms; explain the short term and long term implications of political decisions; Analyse political decisions; evaluate key issues.	Independent study using a variety of sources to add to the Knowledge. An awareness of the political context. The ability to make links between concepts and up to date examples. Critical reflection of current events. Evaluation of own assessed work.	Students will draw on their knowledge of the Constitution and the guidelines drawn out in it. Students will draw on their knowledge on congressional elections from Unit 3 and presidential elections in Unit 4.	Chapter 2: 'Elections and Voting' in *A2 US Government and Politics* by Anthony J Bennett Politics Review Volume 24, Number 4, April 2015: *The 2014 mid-term elections: How significant are they?* Edward Ashbee Politics Review Volume 26, Number 4, April 2017 (extra resources archive): 2016 *US election results*. Emma Kilheeney

Politics - Year 13 Unit 2. Political Ideas- Conservatism November				
What are we learning?	**What knowledge, understanding and skills will we gain?**	**Evaluation and assessment methods**	**Implementation**	**What additional resources are available?**

The origins of Conservatism The views of Conservatism	**Knowledge-** the origins of conservatism and its view of human nature; conservatism's view of society, the state and the economy; the two main strands of conservatism. **Understanding-** Students can explain the influence of key thinkers; Analyse the similarities and differences with other Politics Ideas; evaluate the idea in its historical context. **Skills-** Define key terms; Analyse political ideas; Evaluate key issues.	Independent study using a variety of sources to add to the Knowledge. The ability to make links between concepts and up to date examples. Evaluation of own assessed work.	Students will draw on examples from the USA and UK Units. Students will compare with the political ideas studied in the previous units.	Political Ideas chapter 3 Prechewed Politics

Politics - Year 13 Unit 2. Political parties in the USA. December- January				
What are we learning?	**What knowledge, understanding and skills will we gain?**	**Evaluation and assessment methods**	**Implementation**	**What additional resources are available?**

The two main parties and their ideologies Independent parties and their place in the USA The impact of Pressure Groups	**Knowledge;** Democratic and Republican parties; ideologies; values; traditions; policies; party organisation; factions and internal divisions; third parties and independent candidates. **Understanding;** Students should have an understanding of the key features of the two main parties and be able to analyse their similarities and differences; analyse the extent to which US parties are in a period of decline or renewal; evaluate the influence of third party candidates and the impact of pressure groups **Skills-** Define key terms; explain the short term and long term implications of political decisions; Analyse political decisions; evaluate key issues.	Independent study using a variety of sources to add to the Knowledge. An awareness of the political context. The ability to make links between concepts and up to date examples. Critical reflection of current events. Evaluation of own assessed work.	Students will build on their knowledge of elections in Unit 1 and Partisanship in Yr12 Unit 3.	Chapter 3: 'Political parties' in *A2 US Government and Politics* by Anthony J Bennett Politics Review Volume 23, Number 1, September 2013 (extra resources archive): *Revision: US political parties - what's the difference?* Rowena Hammal Politics Review Volume 25, Number 4, April 2016 (extra resources archive): *US politics: 2016 Republican candidates*. Clare Stansfield

Politics - Year 13 Unit 3. Civil Rights in the USA. February- March				
What are we learning?	**What knowledge, understanding and skills will we gain?**	**Evaluation and assessment methods**	**Implementation**	**What additional resources are available?**

The Protection of Civil Rights The Role of Pressure groups in supporting Civil Rights	**Knowledge-** protection of civil liberties and rights under the constitution, Bill of Rights, subsequent amendments and landmark rulings of the Supreme Court; the role of pressure groups in promoting and supporting rights; case studies on specific human rights. **Understanding;** Students will be aware of landmark cases that affected human rights; analyses the effectiveness of the Constitution and its amendments in protecting human rights; evaluate the successes of pressure groups in promoting civil rights. **Skills-** Define key terms; explain the short term and long term implications of political decisions; Analyse political decisions; evaluate key issues.	Independent study using a variety of sources to add to the knowledge. An awareness of the political context. The ability to make links between concepts and up to date examples. Critical reflection of current events. Evaluation of own assessed work.	Students will draw on their knowledge of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Students will draw on their knowledge of the Supreme Court from Unit 2.	Chapter 8: 'Race and ethnic politics' in *A2 US Government and Politics* by Anthony J Bennett Politics Review Volume 25, Number 3, February 2016: *The US Constitution: a protection against the growth of the security state?* Andrew Colclough Politics Review Volume 26, Number 2, November 2016: *The US Supreme Court: an effective protector of civil rights and liberties?* Robert Singh

Politics - Year 13 Unit 5. Applying Political Theory April				
What are we learning?	**What knowledge, understanding and skills will we gain?**	**Evaluation and assessment methods**	**Implementation**	**What additional resources are available?**

Comparative theory on Judiciary, Elections and Political Parties	**Knowledge-** Definition of rational, structural and cultural theory **Understanding;** Students will build on their prior knowledge and be able to explain how each of the different theories applies to it. **Skills-** Apply theories to prior knowledge, explain and analyse their relative importance in US and UK political systems		Students will build on their knowledge from year 12 unit 2, Judiciary; year 13 unit 1, Elections and unit 2, parties	