

POLITICS: Launchpad

Politics is about *how* the UK is governed (processes), as well as *why* the laws and policies are being introduced as they are. To succeed in Politics you need an interest in **current affairs** - it doesn't matter how much/how little you know at the start of the course but you must have a desire to know more!



Make sure you are regularly watching the news or reading quality newspapers or internet sites over the summer. If you are on twitter follow a variety of news feeds to get a fuller picture. There is such a lot going on in politics at the moment – it will keep you busy. This work MUST be completed and ready to hand in during your first politics lesson. Try to impress your teacher.

TASK 1

The results of the General Election on the 4th July 2024 will be vital for your politics course. Research the answers to A-G in detail. This can be written up in a table or notes. Then answer the question below in a paragraph.

- Why did Prime Minister Rishi Sunak (Conservative) call the general election?
- What were the main manifesto promises for each party? (Conservative, Labour, Liberal Democrat, Green and Reform)
- What were the opinion polls like beforehand? Did these change during the campaign?
- What were the actual results of the election? (Statistics – both in terms of seats won and percentages – include the turnout)
- Why did the Conservative Party lose and the Labour Party win?
- How did the results change from 2019? (How did different areas change their vote?)
- What impact did the smaller parties have on the vote (Green and Reform)?



Write a paragraph to answer the following question:

Evaluate the view that the July 4th general election was lost by the Conservatives rather than won by Labour.

Please do not just copy and paste from the internet, we would like to see your writing style and ability.

TASK 2

Read the "How it works" guide to Parliament – this is a really helpful and detailed overview to the subject.

You can download a copy of it here by following the link (How it works, booklet)

<https://orderresources.parliament.uk/product/how-it-works-english/>

- Read through the History p4-5. Explain two dates and why they are significant in the road to democracy.
- Write a definition for the following word from the booklet:

- Representative democracy p7
- The Constitution p12
- Parliament – select committees p18
- The role of the House of Lords p16-17
- Briefly explain how laws are made p20
- First past the post voting system p9
- Political parties p22-3
- Pressure Groups p24-25

