



Notre Dame

CATHOLIC SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

A-level Politics Summer Learning Activity

Politics Independent Learning Activity - Who Represents Me?

Introductory Research Task

This task can be completed using these websites:

- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/politics>
- www.parliament.uk
- <http://www.number10.gov.uk/>
- <https://www.wikipedia.org/>

You are also encouraged to use any other reputable sources you can access. The task should take around 90 minutes.

A. Parliament, The House of Commons & MPs

Parliament is made up of a two-tier structure: the House of Commons and the House of Lords. Members of the House of Commons are called MPs. They are elected by the votes of the citizens of the United Kingdom in general elections. Each MP represents the area of the country that elected them - this is called their constituency. MPs are grouped together in Parliament as members of political parties.

1. Find out how many MPs are in the House of Commons.
2. Find out the make-up of the different political parties in the current parliament (i.e. How many MPs are there from each party?).
3. Who is your MP and what is the name of your constituency?
4. Which political party does your MP belong to?
5. Find five facts about your MP's political party.
6. Find four different tasks that make up the job of being an MP.

B. The Government, the Prime Minister and Minister in the Cabinet

The biggest political party in the Commons will make up the government. Members of the government will be grouped together as Government Ministers in an organisation called the Cabinet. This is the ruling executive - it is the government. The leader of the Cabinet and the government is called the Prime Minister (PM).

1. Find five Cabinet ministers, record their names, job titles and the names of the government departments they lead.



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2. Record five facts about the Cabinet.
3. Find out five facts about the current Prime Minister.
4. Find the names, political parties and dates of office for the last five PMs (before the current PM!).
5. Research the results of the 2024 general election held on 4 July. What was the % of votes cast for each party (focus on 4-5 of the main parties and don't worry about really small parties). Now do the same for the 2019 general election. What changes can you see?

Task 2 – Podcast Research

1. Listen to at least three different political podcasts. Make a note of each one you listen to, along with a short summary explaining what you learned from each of them about Politics.
2. Check out the politics sections on the BBC and Guardian websites. Make brief notes explaining what you found out.

