**Government and Politics: Year 12 transition work**

Your Year 12 course will cover 2 units which focuses on British politics. Each one of these units will be tested in a one hour 30 minutes exam at the end of your AS Level course. To introduce you to British politics, we would like you to carry out the following research, this should take you no more than 2-3 hours.

Use these websites to do this research:

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk_politics/6999499.stm>

<http://www.parliament.uk/education/about-your-parliament/> (use the tabs on the left hand side for more information)

http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/election/2015/manifesto-guide

**Task 1 – Define these terms:**

Prime Minister

Government

Cabinet

Parliament

House of Commons

House of Lords

Select Committees

Political Party

**Task 2 – Answer these questions:**

What is the difference between the House of Commons and the House of Lords?

What powers does the Prime Minister have?

How is a law made? (Explain all the stages that allow a law to become enacted)

How do people vote for MPs and how does this allow the Government to be formed?

**Task 3 – Political parties:**

Research the (previously 3!) now 4 major political parties in the Westminster system (Conservatives, Labour, the Liberal Democrats and the Scottish National Party) and find out these things:

Origins of the party

Views of the party towards:

* The Economy
* Education
* Health
* The Police and crime

The Leader of the party

How the party performed in the 2015 general election

Explain the biggest differences between the parties

**Task 4 – Extension task**

Go to this website and take the quiz to see where you are on the Political Spectrum.

<https://www.politicalcompass.org/> - you could also find out which party is closes to you on the political spectrum.

Bring this transition work with you to your first lesson in September and have a fantastic summer holiday.

Mr Taylor and Mr Eden