

**Overview:**

POLITICS is about the way that people make decisions, how countries are governed, and the ways that government make laws. Y13 is about the politics of the USA and comparing the UK with the USA.

The Pearson 'Edexcel' syllabus is followed at Headlands School, which consists of three exam papers. Each exam is worth one-third of the overall grade, has a maximum on 84 marks and is 2 hours long.

# Politics

## Year 13

**Term 3:**

We revise government and politics of the UK, the USA and political ideas of; conservatism, liberalism, socialism and nationalism.

**Term 1:**

Government and politics of the USA is main focus of Y13. The USA is considered by some to be a 'beacon of democracy'. As a world power, understanding the nature of US democracy, and the debates surrounding it, is crucial given the considerable impact that the USA has on UK and we begin by scrutinising the US constitution.

We check out the main characteristics of US federalism and explore the debates around the extent to which the USA remains federal today.

We will also explore the structure, power and functions of the US Congress.

**Term 2:**

We study the power of US President in Spring Term, how foreign affairs are handled and the extent to which US Presidents are accountable to Congress.

The US Supreme Court is considered next. We pour over it's relationship with Congress and the President. We check-out its independence and debate to what extent it is independent and political.

We contemplate the role of the US Supreme Court in civil rights and debate the successes and failures in measures to promote equality.

Finally, we compare the government and politics of the UK with the USA.