



IBS Global Politics L6

Curriculum Intent

Our ambition is to help our students make sense of the world around them, we will challenge them to be curious, ask questions and ensure that they acquire the skills required to navigate the vast amount of information available in our modern society. Our curriculum is highly relevant, contemporary and perfectly blended with the international ethos of the school. The key concepts of power, sovereignty, legitimacy, interdependence, human rights, justice, liberty, equality, inequality, globalisation, sustainability, peace, conflict, violence and non-violence underpin teaching and learning in this course. These concepts will be applied at different levels of analysis throughout the course: local, regional, national, international and global.

International politics, like all politics, is a struggle for power – Hans J. Morgenthau

Students will learn:-

*These two units will be covered in the **Lower Sixth**, if one teacher then in the order below, if two teachers the units will be taught simultaneously over the course of the academic year.*

Foundational Unit: power, sovereignty and international relations

- What is power?
- How does power operate in Global Politics?
- What is the function and impact of international organisations and non-state actors?
- What is the nature and extent of interaction global politics?

Human Rights Unit:

- What is the nature and evolution of human rights?
- How are human rights codified, protected and monitored?
- What is the reality of global human rights issues?
- What are the debates surrounding human rights and their application, for example differing interpretations of justice, liberty and equality?

Knowledge, understanding & Skills

Key Concepts:

Power
Sovereignty
Legitimacy
Interdependence

Human Rights
Justice
Liberty
Equality

Alongside these key concepts students will need to develop an understanding of the political theories of:

Realism
Liberalism
Capitalism
Relativism
Universalism
Critical Theories

How will we assess impact?

Our teaching will encourage the development and refinement of key evaluative and analytical skills; acquiring knowledge, developing an argument, extended writing, evaluating sources and recognition of how, where and why opinions about politics and political issues differ.

These skills will provide the foundation for all future learning and continued interest in the political world.

They will be assessed predominately through timed essay based assessments, linear knowledge tests, classroom discussion and end of year PPEs.



How can learning be enriched at home?

Keep a 'scrap book' of news stories, annotate and highlight to show links and connections to the course content.

Read widely in relation to the chosen case studies, develop detailed and specific knowledge.

Students of Global Politics will have an enquiring nature, they will constantly be finding out more about the world that they live in and bring interesting case studies and questions to lessons.

They will be actively engaged in Politics and take advantage of opportunities such as Model United Nations and Mock Parliaments to reflect on the strengths and weaknesses of political systems and process.

They will be adept at debating issues and concepts and will be able to weave perspective into their own arguments.

What does excellence look like?

- **Acquisition of knowledge:** Sound ability to frame questions, researching case studies, picking out key examples.
- **Explaining theory and reality:** being able to explain how things should work, for example identifying aims and ambitions and using knowledge of the reality of politics to explain how things work in practice.
- **Identifying and developing a line of argument** being able to recognise and explain differing perspectives in politics and refining and supporting personal arguments and reflections.
- **Evaluating evidence:** being able to consider perspective in the sources of evidence used, explaining origin, purpose, access to information and judging how this might impact the evidence that is used.
- **Essay writing skills** being able to respond to an issue raised within a question, plan and produce a well-supported and well-argued response to exam style questions.

International Opportunities

Visits Programmes

- United Nations visit to Geneva
- House of Commons visit
- International work experience visits
- Local mock parliament
- Community lectures
- Model United Nations conferences

Within the curriculum

International Politics module covering topics such as:

- Globalisation
- Human Rights
- Terrorism
- Environmental politics
- European Union
- International institutions
- Cultural relativism

Suggested reading:

- Andrew Heywood, Global Politics
- Jenny Edkins and Maja Zehfuss, Global Politics a New Introduction.
- Tim Marshall, Prisoners of Geography: Ten maps that tell you everything you need to know about Global Politics.
- John Bayliss, The Globalisation of World Politics: An introduction to international relations.



*"We have not eternal allies and we have not perpetual enemies.
Our interests are eternal and perpetual and those interests it is our duty to follow."*

Lord Palmerston, British Prime Minister