



CITIZENSHIP

GCSE

OPTION SUBJECT – CATEGORY B

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

SPECIFICATION CODE: 8100

WHY TAKE THIS COURSE?

GCSE Citizenship allows students to consider real issues that affect them in society from law and justice to politics and the economy. Citizenship issues are at the heart of many contemporary debates that students will find fascinating and engaging.

This course is extremely useful for any student wishing to progress to further education in any area requiring independent research or those wishing to enter employment and use transferable skills such as communication, organisation and teamwork.

Students who are interested in the world around them and are aware of the impact of their own actions and the actions of others in society will be able to develop into strong candidates for employers and further education.

The course content provides a foundation for further academic or vocational study in a wide range of areas such as Law, Sociology, Media, Journalism, History, Geography, Religious Studies, Health and Social Care and Business Studies. It provides knowledge and skills useful for a range of careers, in particular; journalism, politics, advocacy, law, policing or social care. Most importantly it provides students with the opportunity to develop as well rounded and informed active citizens.

AIMS OF THE COURSE

To develop candidates' ability to:

- Prepare and become an active citizen of our democracy;
- Promote students personal and social development;
- Develop their understanding of knowledge of how society works and how the UK is influenced by the rest of the world;
- Encourage critical thinking and enquiry, allowing students to engage with current affairs and to try and make a difference;
- Engage with their local community by taking informed and responsible action.

COURSE STRUCTURE AND CONTENT

Unit 1: Life in Modern Britain

What it means to be British and the nature of contemporary British society. Knowledge and understanding of the nature of the key concepts, principles and values that underpin British society today and the makeup of contemporary British society, as well as its rights, freedoms, the rule of law and a citizen's responsibilities.

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CITIZENSHIP (CONT...)

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COURSE STRUCTURE AND CONTENT (CONT...)

Unit 2: Rights and Responsibilities

Our rights and responsibilities at school/college and as citizens within the economy and welfare systems. Extending understanding of a global citizen's rights and responsibilities.

Unit 3: Politics and Participation

Knowledge and understanding of the concept and basic forms of democracy and the key elements of the way Britain is governed.

Unit 4: Active Citizenship – Leading the Way as an Active Citizen

Taking citizenship action in a real out-of-classroom context to apply citizenship knowledge, understanding and skills and to gain different citizenship insights and appreciate different perspectives on how we live together and make decisions in society. Students practice a range of citizenship skills including research and enquiry, interpretation of evidence, including primary and secondary sources, planning, collaboration, problem solving, advocacy, campaigning and evaluation.

ASSESSMENT: 100% EXAMINATION

The GCSE consists of four units which comprise of two written exams, each of which are 1 hour 45 minutes long and worth 50% of the GCSE.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students will benefit from an interest in and awareness of the society we live in as well as having concern for humanity and our environment and a desire to think and act independently, critically and constructively.