

Citizenship at Norbury High

Overview

The Citizenship department at Norbury High School aims to provide students with the skills and knowledge necessary to become active members of society. Students learn about politics, parliament and voting as well as human rights, justice and the law with the aim of improving their overall civic engagement. Having an understanding of how our society is governed and how it functions allows students to be engaged, informed and responsible citizens; this will encourage them as young adults to make positive contributions to their communities and the political system. We aim to instill in all students self-confidence and a sense of agency regardless of their background, interests or ability. We offer an enriched programme of study that not only develops their skills in independent thinking and persuasive writing but encourages them to express their opinions through discussion and group work.

KS3 Citizenship

Year 9

In year 9, students start to engage with citizenship as an independent subject. Their learning centres on democracy and law in the UK as well as global politics and human rights. The order of the programme of study has been planned to reflect the units learnt at GCSE level. This helps to bridge the gap for those who choose to study citizenship at Key Stage 4.

UNIT 1: Rights and the Law

Students explore rights, freedoms and laws in the UK and abroad. They will examine different types of law and how the UK's justice system deals with crime. This will include exploring the procedures of civil and criminal law and the issues pertaining to the law in the local community.

UNIT 2: Democracy and the UK

This unit offers a comparison of the different political parties in the UK and the different systems of voting. Students will also study the role of parliament, investigating how the monarchy and government work together to uphold democratic standards.

UNIT 3: The UK and the Wider World

This unit gives students the opportunity to become active citizens by investigating a global issue. They will work together in groups to complete a project on a current violation of human rights and present ways in which we, as both individual and collective citizens, can make a difference worldwide.

KS4 Citizenship Studies

Students will study the OCR Citizenship Studies GCSE which incorporates three exams. These exams are a mix of multiple choice questions, short answer questions and essay writing. They will also have the opportunity to become active citizens by completing a project on a current world issue; in teams, they will work together to either raise awareness of the issue in school or make a change to help this crisis. The GCSE course provides students with extensive knowledge of law, democracy and politics on a local, national and global scale which builds on their knowledge from Key Stage 3. The GCSE exam syllabus for KS4 which is utilised at Norbury is OCR and content pertaining to units and content can be found below:

Year 10 Citizenship Studies

Section 1: Rights, the law and the legal system in England and Wales.

Students will explore the following topics:

1. Rights and Responsibilities (Chapter 1)
2. The Law (Chapter 2)
3. The Legal System (Chapter 3)

Section 3: The UK and the Wider World.

Students will explore the following topics:

1. Identities and diversity in UK society (Chapter 11)
2. The UK and its relations with the wider world (Chapter 12)

Year 11 Citizenship Studies

Section 2: Democracy and Government.

Students will explore the following topics:

1. Democracy, elections and voting in the UK (Chapter 4)
2. National, local, regional and devolved government (Chapter 5)
3. The British constitution (Chapter 6)
4. The economy, finance and money (Chapter 7)
5. The role of the media and free press (Chapter 8)
6. Citizenship participation in the UK and taking citizenship action (Chapter 9)
7. Politics beyond the UK (Chapter 10)