**UNIT OVERVIEW:** Political parties

**ENQUIRY: Do political parties always contribute to the democratic process?**

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| **Unit intention:** To understand the UK party system and how they have developed over time | | | |
| **Success criteria** | | 🗸 | X |
| I can identify and explain the functions of political parties and the types of parties  I can assess and evaluate whether the UK has a two party or multi-party system  I can identify and explain how UK parties are funded  I can assess and evaluate the impact of party funding and justify whether it is in need for reform.  I can explain the origins, development and core ideas of conservatism and explain the different types/factions within conservatism.  I can explain the origins, development and core ideas of the Labour and can explain the key principles of Old Labour and New Labour and the impact of this in general elections.  I can explain the origins, development and core ideas of the Liberal Democrat Party, the different factions and can evaluate the impact of the Liberal Democrats. | |  |  |
| To be successful:   * Flip reading before every lesson (use textbook, articles provided by the teacher, GC resources) * Come to class with questions for the teacher. * Stay up to date by reading on current affairs. * Regular essay plans and timed assessments * Collaborate with others. | | | |
| **Topic Sequence**  1. Features and functions of political parties  2. Political party funding  3. Conservative Party  4. Labour Party  5. Liberal Democrats  6. Importance and emergence of minor parties  7. Types of party systems in the UK  8. Factors affecting party success | **Useful links and Resources:**  **BBC News** [www.bbc.com/politics](http://www.bbc.com/politics)  **Channel Four News (Politics)** – in depth video analysis of political stories. <https://www.channel4.com/news/>  The **Economist** has analysis and opinions of the latest political stories. <https://www.economist.com/>  **The Telegraph** – Current political news, more from a Conservative perspective. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/>  The **Guardian** – Current political news, more from a liberal perspective. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics>  **Blogs**  **UCL Constitution Unit** – Research based blog dealing with analysis of current political problems  <https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/politicsandpolicy/>  **Politics blog** <http://alevelpolitics.com/>  **Useful resources**  **Tutor2u – resources for A-Level Politics**  <https://www.tutor2u.net/politics>  **Politics Review Magazines – Extra Resources**  <https://www.hoddereducation.co.uk/magazines/magazines-extras/politics-review-extras> | | |