

Year 9 Citizenship

Are Elections the Best Way to Decide Who Runs the Country?

Learning Objectives

- Explain why elections are important in a democracy.
- Compare different electoral systems and types of elections.
- Assess causes of low voter turnout and alternatives to electoral democracy.
- Evaluate possible reforms to the UK electoral system.

What previous knowledge is required?

Knowledge of UK government, political parties and voting rights from Year 8.

How will this term's content help with future learning?

Provides foundations for study of democracy, representation and participation.

Common Misconceptions

- Everyone votes in elections.
- The UK uses the same voting system for every election.
- Democracy only exists where elections take place.

National Curriculum / Specification

The operation of Parliament, including voting and elections, and the role of political parties.

What are British Values?

Learning Objectives

- Define democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance.
- Examine legal protections for rights and freedoms.
- Investigate human rights case studies.

What previous knowledge is required?

Understanding of rights, suffrage and democratic development.

How will this term's content help with future learning?

Supports learning about citizenship, law, rights and social cohesion.

Common Misconceptions

- British Values belong only to British citizens.
- Human rights can be removed without legal process.

National Curriculum / Specification

The precious liberties enjoyed by the citizens of the United Kingdom and the nature of rules and laws.

What is Britain's Role in Global Citizenship?

Learning Objectives

- Understands Britain's role in the UN, NATO and ECHR.
- Examine humanitarian intervention and international cooperation.
- Assess the impact of Brexit on Britain's global role.

What previous knowledge is required?

Knowledge of the UK political system and rights.

How will this term's content help with future learning?

Develops understanding of international citizenship and global issues.

Common Misconceptions

- The UN can make countries do anything it wants.
- The ECHR and EU are the same organisation.

National Curriculum / Specification

How citizens contribute to society and understanding participation beyond local communities.

Topic - How Do We Keep Our Money Safe?

Learning Objectives

- Identify common financial scams and fraud.
- Develop budgeting skills.
- Understand credit, debt and financial risk.

What previous knowledge is required?

Basic understanding of taxation and public finance from Year 7 and 8 Citizenship lessons.

How will this term's content help with future learning?

Prepares students for financial literacy and independent living.

Common Misconceptions

- Credit cards provide free money.
- Fraud only happens online.

National Curriculum / Specification

The functions and uses of money, budgeting and managing risk.

Topic - How Does the Justice System Serve Us?

Learning Objectives

- Explore sentencing and punishment.
- Evaluate alternative dispute resolution.
- Understand the role of courts and evidence.

What previous knowledge is required?

Knowledge of criminal justice institutions from Year 8.

How will this term's content help with future learning?

Builds progression towards Citizenship studies of law and justice.

Common Misconceptions

- Punishment is the only purpose of sentencing.
- All cases automatically go to court.

National Curriculum / Specification

The nature of rules and laws and the justice system, including courts and tribunals.

Topic - Maidstone Citizenship Project

Learning Objectives

- Identify a local issue.
- Research evidence and stakeholder views.
- Plan and deliver informed action within the community.
- Evaluate the impact of participation.

What previous knowledge is required?

Knowledge gained throughout KS3 Citizenship.

How will this term's content help with future learning?

Develops active citizenship, enquiry and participation skills

Common Misconceptions

- One person cannot make a difference.
- Citizenship is only about politics.

National Curriculum / Specification

Ways in which citizens work together to improve their communities, including opportunities to take informed action.