

Rationale for A Level Politics Teacher Assessments, 2021

This year students will receive grades awarded and determined by teachers, with students only assessed on what they have been taught and based on the standard at which they are performing.

Fairness and flexibility are at the heart of this plan. Teachers have been asked to draw on a range of evidence when determining grades, including the optional use of questions provided by exam boards, as well as mock exams, coursework, or other work completed as part of a student's course, such as essays or in-class tests.

The process for awarding a Teacher Assessment Grade (TAG) for A Level Politics at KNGS:

- At KNGS, the A Level Politics course is taught by an experienced Politics teacher in year 12 and 13.
- This Politics teacher has taught A Level Politics for 10 years, both the new and old specifications.
- The Edexcel A Level Politics course involves 3 written papers. Papers 1 and 2 cover topics in the UK Politics and UK Government components, and Paper 3 covers topics in the Comparative Politics – Global Politics component. All components and papers carry equal weighting and contribute 33.3% of students' overall grade.
- Papers 1 and 2 both involve a source-based 30 mark essay question, a 30 mark essay question and a shorter 24 mark essay question on Core Political Ideas (paper 1) and Non-core Political Ideas (paper 2). The 30 mark questions provide 35.7% of the marks for each paper and the 24 mark question provides 28.6% of the marks.
- Paper 3 involves two short 12 mark questions and two 30 mark essay questions. The 12 mark questions both provide 14.3% of the marks and the 30 mark questions both provide 35.7% of the marks.
- Throughout the course, pupils have been set regular assessments in the form of Key Assignments and summative assessments (both seen and unseen). They have produced answers to the full range of question types and topics. The only topic that students have not studied is Regionalism and the EU.
- The Politics teacher keeps records to track progress.
- The weight of different components within each paper has been taken into account.

TAG Grades 2021

The range of evidence used ensures that all Assessment Objectives are covered. Furthermore, all syllabus components will be considered when calculating the TAG. The weighting will be as follows:

Component	Expected Evidence	Type of Assessment	Expected Weighting to that component	Overall weighting to final TAG
Comp 1 - UK Politics	Teacher assessed 30 mark essays/source-based essays/mini-mock essay on Core Political Ideas (based on a sample from September 2019-November 2020)	Seen	15%	40
	End of unit mock assessment (December 2019)(1x 30 mark	Unseen	10%	

	essay and 1x source-based 30 mark essay)			
	Structured Assessments x1 (April 2021) (90 mins – 1x 30 mark essay and 1x 24 mark essay)	Unseen	15%	
Comp 2 - UK Government	Teacher assessed 30 mark essay and 24 mark essay (based on a sample from January 2020-September 2020)	Seen	10%	25
	Structured Assessments x1 (April 2021)(90 mins – 1x source-based 30 mark essay and 1x 24 mark essay)	Unseen	15%	
Comp 3 - Comparative Politics – Global	Teacher assessed 30 mark essays (based on a sample from November 2020-March 2021)	Seen	15%	35
	Structured Assessments x1 (April 2021)(90 mins – 2x 12 mark answers and 1x 30 mark essay)	Unseen	15%	
	Mini-mock (November 2020)(2x 12 mark questions)	Unseen	5%	

- Internal quality assurance processes will take place to ensure that judgements are standardised.
- External moderation took place for the ‘mini-mock’ in November 2020.
- Any access arrangements and individual needs will be considered.
- Exam board support materials and guidance will be used to make grade judgements.