GCSE Citizenship Year 11	**Curriculum intent:** GCSE Citizenship Studies has the power to motivate and enable young people to become thoughtful, active citizens. Students gain a deeper knowledge of democracy, government and law, and develop skills to create sustained and reasoned arguments, present various viewpoints and plan practical citizenship actions to benefit society. They will also gain the ability to recognise bias, critically evaluate argument, weigh evidence and look for alternative interpretations and sources of evidence, all of which are essential skills valued by higher education and employers.					
Units	**3.4 Politics and Participation**			**3.5 Active Citizenship**		
Interleaving	Key knowledge and skills retrieved from previous learning. Synoptic study of different GCSE units. Citizenship skills, processes and methods.			Key knowledge and skills retrieved from previous learning. Synoptic study of different GCSE units. Citizenship skills, processes and methods.		
Knowledge	• What democracy means and how it works in the UK. • The key parts of government: local, national and devolved. • Voting, elections and referendums — how decisions are made. • Political parties and pressure groups. • How people can influence politics (e.g., campaigning, petitions). • Constitutions and how rules about power are organised.			• Understand examples of citizenship actions (real-life case studies). • Plan, carry out and evaluate your own citizenship investigation and action. • This could include research, campaigning, volunteering or raising awareness. • Reflect on the impact and effectiveness of your action.		
Understanding	In this theme students will look at the nature of political power in the UK and the core concepts relating to democracy and government. This includes how government operates at its various levels within the UK, how decisions are made and how the UK parliament works and carries out its functions. It also looks at the role of political parties, the election system, how other countries govern themselves and how the citizen can bring about political change.			This specification is developed around the overarching principle of how citizens can try to make a difference in society. Whilst the three content-based themes enable students to develop their citizenship knowledge base, the last section of each theme enables students to explore through case study approaches and by their own actions how citizens are able to try to make a difference. The first question posed on the Active citizenship section of Paper 1 relates to understanding citizenship actions and includes a source-based question relating to a citizenship action scenario. This approach is further enhanced through the second question on the Active citizenship section of Paper 1 where students are required to undertake an investigation into a citizenship issue of their own choice which involves research, action and reflection. These two mutually linked elements enable students to understand and assess the actions of others and draw upon others' experiences when undertaking their own investigation.		
Skills	**Critical Thinking** Analysis Evaluation	**Comprehension** Research Enquiry Interpretation	**Application** Use of key terminology Written communication	**Critical Thinking** Analysis Evaluation Knowledge	**Comprehension** Research Enquiry Interpretation	**Application** Use of key terminology Written communication
Assessment	GCSE exam paper one			GCSE exam paper one		