

PCSHE – Year 7 Term 2 – Citizenship

KPI1 – Key words

- Democracy:** A system of government where everybody has a say in how the country is ran, so what the majority of the nation wants to happen, generally happens.
- Dictatorship:** A system of government where one person has complete control over a country.
- Voting:** Going to a polling station to put a tick next to the person you wish to represent your local area in parliament.
- Government:** Those who are in charge of the country at that time.
- Parliament:** This is all the members of Parliament, the government and the opposition.
- Opposition:** They are the other political parties who are not in government.
- Political parties:** Different parties have differing views on how the country should be run. They have different ideas so different sections of society like to vote for them.
- Monarchy:** The King or Queen at the time who has to sign off new laws to make them official.
- House of Commons:** Where members of Parliament meet to discuss new laws on how to run the country. If the majority agree then a new law is passed onto the House of Lords.
- Prime Minister:** This is the person who runs the party who is in government at that time. They are in charge of running the country.
- Cabinet:** These are MP’s chosen by the Prime Minister and given the most important jobs with the most responsibility.
- MP:** A member of Parliament, these people are voted into power by the public in elections to represent the area they are from.
- House of Lords:** This house is made up of professional people e.g. doctors or lawyers. They are not voted for. If a law is passed to them from the commons, they debate it. If they agree with the law it becomes a new law.
- Election:** When everyone over the age of 18 are able to choose who they want to lead the country. They vote in secret.
- Consistency:** All of England is split into equal size constituencies. These are areas which have a member of parliament to represent their interest in Parliament.

KPI2 – General Elections:
A general election is an important process that allows citizens to choose their representatives in government. The process typically involves several key steps, which are explained below:

- Setting the Election Date:** The government or relevant authorities announce the date for the general election.
- Candidate Nominations:** Political parties or independent candidates nominate individuals to represent them in the election
- Election Campaign:** Candidates take part in a campaign to promote their policies, ideas, and vision to the people.
- Voter Registration:** Citizens must register to vote before the election.
- Voting Process:** On the day of the election, registered voters visit polling stations to cast their votes. They make their choice by marking the ballot paper or following the instructions provided by the electronic voting machine.
- Vote Counting:** After the voting period ends, the ballots are counted either manually or using specialized machines.
- Declaration of Results:** Once the vote counting is completed, the election authorities announce the results.
- Formation of Government:** In a parliamentary system, the political party that secures the majority of seats in the election forms the government. The leader of the winning party or coalition often becomes the Prime Minister or the head of government. They then proceed to appoint ministers and establish policies to govern the country.

KPI3 – Role of the MP:
An MP is an elected representative who serves in Parliament. The primary responsibilities and roles of an MP include:

- Legislation:** MPs participate in the process of making laws by proposing, debating, and voting on bills and amendments. They analyse existing laws and suggest new ones
- Representation:** MPs act as a voice for their constituents (*people*) in the parliament. They listen to the concerns, needs, and opinions of the people they represent and try to solve these issues through laws.
- Constituency Work:** MPs are responsible for addressing the concerns and needs of their constituents at the local level. They help individuals and communities with issues related to healthcare, education, housing, employment, and other matters.
- Debate and Representation of Views:** MPs engage in parliamentary debates, discussing and presenting their views on various issues.

KPI3 – Role of the Monarch:

- Head of State:** They serve as a figurehead and symbol of national identity, both within the UK and around the world.
- Constitutional Duties:** The monarch has responsibilities, including giving royal agreement to laws passed by Parliament. The monarch also has the power to appoint and dismiss the Prime Minister and other government ministers.
- State Opening of Parliament:** The monarch formally opens each new session of Parliament with the State Opening of Parliament ceremony. They deliver the King’s Speech, which outlines the government’s law-making agenda for the coming year.
- Representing the Commonwealth:** As the head of the Commonwealth, the monarch represents the UK in its relationships with other member countries. The monarch participates in Commonwealth events, summits, and initiatives that promote cooperation among member nations.
- Patronage and Charitable Work:** The monarch serves as a patron (*supporter*) for numerous charities, organisations, and institutions, providing support, raising awareness, and promoting their causes. This involvement helps bring attention to important issues and contributes to public welfare.