

Citizenship

PDE

Edexcel GCSE Citizenship Studies (Full Course)

(Option)

Citizenship is a subject that gives students the opportunity to discuss important issues in the world today. It encourages students to think critically about fundamental aspects of society. Citizenship education gives people the knowledge they need to play a full and active part in society. Your Citizenship course will help you to understand how you can make your voice heard and change things.

Students are encouraged to develop an interest in topical and controversial issues, and ethical considerations. Students should engage in discussion and debate, have a firm grasp of the differences between facts and opinions and their significance, and be able to recognise bias. Critical engagement is central to this unit as active learning enables students to achieve deeper understanding and appreciation of concepts.

The course is divided into three themes

Theme 1 - Rights and Responsibilities

This theme explores diversity and the changing nature of society in the UK. You will look at human rights and freedoms in a range of contexts, from local to global. The unit explains that respect and understanding between people can help to create a better society. You will look at our rights and responsibilities as individuals, consumers and employees.

Theme 2 - Power, Politics and the Media

This theme shows how you can make a change to society, both as an individual and as a member of voluntary groups. A section on political power shows how you can make a difference by voting in elections. You will learn how you can speak to your local council about issues that concern you, and how people can get involved in pressure groups. You will also explore the power of the media and how it informs and influences public debate. You will also look at the roles and operation of civil and criminal law and the justice system.

Theme 3 - The Global Community

This theme shows you how the economy works including decisions about the collection and allocation of public money. You will explore the way in which business affects our lives both in the UK and the world. Global issues are examined in this section including practices for sustainable development. You will learn about international organisations such as the European Union and the United Nations in securing human rights and that international humanitarian law aims to provide protection for victims.

Coursework 1 – Participating in Society

A key issue is chosen and students are assessed under controlled conditions, through a single internally-assessed, externally moderated assessment. Students will need to keep a record of how you planned the activity, carried it out, provide evidence of your activity and decide how well it went.

Coursework 2 – Citizenship Campaign

A key issue is chosen and students are assessed under controlled conditions, through a single internally-assessed, externally moderated assessment. Students will plan, implement and evaluate a self-generated campaign.

Assessment

A written exam: worth 20% (one paper, 1 hour long)

A written exam: worth 20% (one paper, 1 hour and 15 minutes long)

Coursework one: worth 30%

Coursework two: worth 30%

Skills

You will develop skills of critical thinking and enquiry such as being able to question and reflect on different ideas, opinions, assumptions, beliefs and values when exploring topical and controversial issue and problems. Skills involving advocacy and representation which will enable you to present a convincing argument that takes account of, and represents different viewpoints. You will also develop skills of participation and responsible action.

Year 10s are currently preparing for the GCSE Full Course Citizenship