

AS-LEVEL CITIZENSHIP STUDIES

The AQA AS Citizenship Studies course aims to encourage students to:

- Develop a critical interest in topical citizenship issues and debates, and encourage independent thinking skills
- Develop political literacy and an understanding of democracy and decision making through both
- Understand how everyday politics and law work in practice, how inequalities and fairness affect individuals and communities, and how decisions are made in society.
- Develop the necessary skills, confidence and conviction to contribute to debates, take action on citizenship issues in their communities and play an active role as effective citizens in public life.

Course content (General Topic Areas)

UNIT 1 (**IDENTITY, RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES**) will explore the following questions:

- What does it mean to be British?
- Are we all equal citizens?
- What are my rights and responsibilities? Prejudice, discrimination and disadvantage
- How are my rights protected and supported? – Legal frameworks

UNIT 2 (**DEMOCRACY, ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP AND PARTICIPATION**) will explore the following questions:

- Who can make a difference? - The citizen and political power in the United Kingdom.
- How can I make a difference? – Active citizenship
- In this unit students are also required to be involved in a range of citizenship activities, from developing their own knowledge to working with others demonstrating citizenship skills and working alone or with others to bring about a change. These activities should take place within and/or outside their educational establishments and students should use the *Active Citizenship Profile* to record their participation.

Teaching & Learning

The course will involve a lot of discussion and group work. Active and creative learning activities will be encouraged and students will be expected to be participative and work as a team.

Assessment : Exam Board: AQA

Unit 1 - Identity, Rights and Responsibilities - 40% of AS. Written Paper, 1 hour 15 minutes.

Source-based questions and mini-essay questions.

Unit 2 – Democracy, Active Citizenship and Participation - 60% of AS. Written Paper, 1 h. 30m.

Source-based question and mini-essay plus structured question on active citizenship participation.

Candidates bring their *Active Citizenship Profile* into the exam.