

GCSE Citizenship

Examination Board: AQA (8100)

Director of Learning: Zoë O'Connor

zoe.oconnor@abbeyfieldschool.org.uk

Why study Citizenship?

Citizenship is a great subject that enables pupils to:

- Helps you understand how the UK government, law, and democracy work.
- Builds confidence in debating, presenting ideas, and thinking critically.
- Teaches you about rights, responsibilities, and real-life issues.
- Encourages you to take action on topics you care about (environment, equality, justice).
- Supports future careers in law, politics, policing, journalism, teaching, and public services.

Possible next steps (including careers)

GCSE Citizenship Studies provides an excellent foundation for further study beyond the age of 16, including A-Level Politics, Law, Sociology, History and other post-16 pathways. A qualification in Citizenship is highly valued for a wide range of careers, such as law, policing, journalism, public services, social work, the civil service, community work and teaching.

Aptitudes needed

An interest in reading and writing. Clear expression on paper and orally. Good listening skills. Willingness to contribute to discussions and to develop arguments. Ability to keep to deadlines.

Topic Structure

During the two years of the course, you will be studying:

Year 10:

- Rights and Responsibilities
- Life in Modern Britain
- Active citizenship Project Part 1

Year 11:

- Active Citizenship Project part 2
- Politics and Participation

Assessment Structure

Component 1:

- Section A: Active citizenship
- Section B: Politics and participation

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE

Component 2: Thematic studies – Students study the themes below:

- Section A: Life in modern Britain
- Section B: Rights and responsibilities

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE