

PSHE	Democracy	Year 7	Term 4
1: What is Democracy?		2: Parliament and Government	
<p>Democracy is a system of government in which power is vested in the people.</p> <p>The aim of democracy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human dignity • Freedom • Equality • Justice • Good governance • Peace <p>Key features of a democracy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free and fair elections • Protected human rights • Multiparty system • Active citizens • The rule of law • The separation of powers 		<p>The UK Parliament is made up of three parts: the House of Commons, the House of Lords and the Monarch.</p> <p>For hundreds of years, the Monarch had chosen the people who would govern the country. Today, the Government is chosen by whichever party has the most Members of Parliament after an election. People over 18 years old can vote for the candidate they want to be their MP. The candidate who gets the most votes becomes the MP for that area. Most candidates represent a political party. General elections usually take place every 5 years.</p> <p>The House of Commons is where Members of Parliament (MPs) meet. There are 650 MPs and they are elected by us, the people. Each MP represents a different part of the country, called a constituency.</p>	
3: What do MPs do?		4: How are laws made?	
<p>MPs are elected by the voters in their constituency, to represent their interests and concerns in the House of Commons.</p> <p>An MPs' biggest job is to challenge the policies of the Government by taking part in debates in the House of Commons. They also vote on new laws and keep track of the work of the Government to make sure their plans are fair and sensible.</p> <p>MPs don't spend all their time in Parliament. They also spend a lot of time in their constituencies, staying in touch with the people who live there, listening to their concerns and helping to solve their problems where possible. MPs often hold 'surgeries' in their constituency, where local people can go along to discuss any matters that concern them.</p>		<p>In the UK, Parliament makes the laws and big decisions that affect all of us.</p> <p>First reading: The bill arrives in the Lords.</p> <p>Second reading: The main debate on the purpose and key areas of the bill.</p> <p>Committee stage: Detailed line-by-line scrutiny of the text with amendments (suggested changes). Members start at the front of the bill and work through to the end.</p> <p>Report stage: A further opportunity to examine the bill and make changes.</p> <p>Third reading: A 'tidying up' stage, aiming to close any loopholes.</p> <p>Royal Assent: When both Houses have agreed the text, the bill is approved by the Monarch and becomes a law or 'Act of Parliament'.</p>	
5: Who are the Police?		6: What are Human Rights?	
<p>The police enforce the laws which are written and passed by Parliament. They gather the evidence which is used against offenders in the courts, where, if the person is found guilty, punishments are given to them. There are 43 police forces in England and Wales. The College of Policing identifies four key roles of the police:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protecting life and property. • Preserving order. • Preventing the commission of offences. • Bringing offenders to justice. <p>The police try to prevent crime through education and campaigns to raise awareness and reduce crime. There are three main powers the police use to tackle crime: stop and search, power to arrest and entry, search and seizure.</p>		<p>Our human rights are the basic rights and freedoms to which all humans are entitled. They ensure people can live freely and that they are able to flourish, reach their potential and participate in society. They ensure that people are treated fairly and with dignity and respect. You have human rights simply because you are human and they cannot be taken away.</p> <p>The Law</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Human Rights Act 1998 is a law that came into force in the UK in October 2000. • It protects a number of important human rights such as the right not to be treated as a slave, the right to freedom of expression and the right to an education. • The Human Rights Act applies to everyone in the UK. • People who think that their human rights have been denied can take a case to court. 	