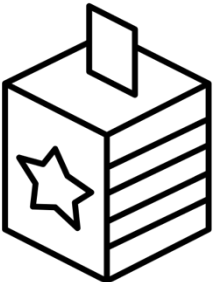




# Political Power & Options and Pathways



What is democracy?	How else might a country be run?	How might people with disabilities be treated?	Options & Pathways
<p>What does democracy mean? A government in which the supreme power is put upon the people and exercised by them directly or indirectly.</p> <p>It includes the following aspects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fair, free and regular elections</li> <li>Any citizen can stand for election</li> <li>Candidates can campaign equally without any fear of intimidation or bribery</li> <li>The media can freely report on the work of Government.</li> <li>The process respects basic human rights</li> <li>Voters choose who they wish to vote for and ballots are secret</li> </ul> <p><b><i>The United Kingdom is a democratic country.</i></b></p>	<p><i>Not all countries are democratic. There are other types of government too:</i></p> <p><b>Anarchy</b> - No formal government exists; individuals govern themselves</p> <p><b>Constitutional monarchy</b> - A king or queen is the head of state but power lies with elected representatives</p> <p><b>Dictatorship</b> - Power is concentrated in the hands of a single person who holds absolute control</p> <p><b>Direct democracy</b> - Citizens can vote on proposals, the results of which inform national laws and policies</p> <p><b>Monarchy</b> - A king or queen is the head of state and holds significant power and authority</p> <p><b>Oligarchy</b> - A small group of individuals holds power and makes important decisions for the country</p> <p><b>Representative democracy</b> - Citizens elect other people to make decisions on their behalf</p> <p><b>Theocracy</b> - Religious leaders hold political power, decisions are based on religious principles</p>	<p><b>Power definition:</b></p> <p>‘Power implies possession of ability to wield force, authority, or influence.’</p> <p>- <b>Mariam Webster Dictionary</b></p> <p><b>Hard power –</b> Hard power refers to a country’s ability to use military force, economic coercion, or other forms of tangible resources to influence or control other countries.</p> <p><b>Soft power –</b> Soft power is the ability to influence others to do what you want without using force or coercion. It’s about getting others to want the same things you want, by appealing to their values, culture, and beliefs.</p>	<p><b>Why are my year 9 options important?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 9 options are so important because they often hold the <b>key to your future</b>.</li> <li>Selecting your options in year 9 <b>does not</b> mean that you need to decide exactly what your future career will be – but it is a good opportunity to start thinking about future goals and aspirations.</li> <li>On order to pick the best options for you, consider <b>how useful</b> a subject is for your future aspiration <b>as well as how enjoyable</b> you find a lesson.</li> <li>At OCA, we have <b>4 options blocks</b>. You pick one subject from each block. You can only pick one ‘art’ and one ‘music’ option.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>What does the cabinet do?</b></p> <p>The Cabinet is a group of politicians who are selected by the Prime Minister to make decisions on government policies and new laws during their weekly meetings in 10 Downing Street.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div data-bbox="529 1200 738 1408">  </div> <div data-bbox="759 1200 1003 1408"> <p><b>Kier Starmer</b> Labour MP for Holborn and St Pancras &amp; current PM</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1034 1200 1243 1408">  </div> <div data-bbox="1263 1200 1508 1408"> <p><b>Angela Rayner</b> Labour MP for Ashton-under-Lyme &amp; current deputy PM</p> </div> </div>	<p><b>Who holds power in the UK?</b></p> <p>Social media influencers &amp; celebrities Prime Minister &amp; MPs Judges The voting public Big Business The police British Media The Royal Family Protest Groups</p>	<p><b>What are my post 16 options?</b></p> <p>After year 11, you have the following options:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stay in <b>full-time education</b> - e.g. A Levels, T Levels or other academic qualifications</li> <li>Start a full-time <b>apprenticeship or traineeship</b></li> <li>Spend <b>20 hours+</b> a week working or <b>volunteering</b> while also in <b>part-time education or training</b></li> </ol>