

## Citizenship Overview 2017-2018

The Citizenship KS4 curriculum at Hamilton follows the Edexcel Exam Board.

### **The Edexcel course:**

Year 9 and 10 follow the Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9–1) in Citizenship Studies which consists of two externally examined papers.

### **Paper 1**

**Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes**

**50% of the qualification, 80 marks**

#### **Assessment overview**

Theme A: Living together in the UK. Students are introduced to the idea that the UK is a diverse society of many different communities and groups who live together. They explore the nature of identity and multiple identities as well as how and why communities are changing. They consider the democratic rights, freedoms and values that we share, including human rights and the challenge of balancing competing rights.

Theme B: Democracy at work in the UK. Students explore the idea of representative, parliamentary democracy in the UK including the voting and electoral system, the roles and responsibilities of MPs and how government is organised and kept in check. They will also consider the role of parliament in making and shaping law; the government's role in managing public money; and how power is organised across the constituent parts of the UK.

Theme C: Law and justice. Students explore why we need laws and how law affects us in our everyday lives. They consider how the justice system in England and Wales works in practice including the roles and power of the police and the courts. They also learn about the distinctive features of the criminal, civil and youth justice systems and some of the different approaches to settling disputes, addressing inequality, changing behaviour and tackling crime in society.

#### **Section D**

Extended-response questions related to two or more of specification Themes A–C.

### **Paper 2**

**Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes**

**50% of the qualification, 80 marks**

#### **Assessment overview**

#### **Section A**

Questions relate to the students' own citizenship action, as specified in specification

Theme E: Taking citizenship action.

**Section B**

Questions require students to comment on others' actions and relate to specification

Theme D: Power and influence.

**Section C**

Questions are focused on specification Theme D: Power and influence. One question will also link to content in one of Themes A–C.