



What should I already know?

Understand what the British monarchy is **Y1**

The foundations of Britain (Stone Age/Romans) **Y3**

An understanding of London as a centre of governance and trade **Y2/Y3**

Where Harrow is and what it is like to live there **KS1**

How is Britain made up?

England

Northern Ireland

Scotland

Wales

Land in England is divided into counties and London is divided into boroughs



Vocabulary

Government	A group of people who have the authority to set policy and take action for a state
Nation	A large body of people who are united by history who live in a common land
Parliament	Made up of the House of Lords, the House of Commons and the monarch
Monarchy	A form of Government with a Monarch at it's head
Democracy	A system of Government created through electing people to represent others
Vote	Indicating a choice between candidates formally, such as through a ballot. In the UK, you have to be 18 to vote.
Ballot	Voting secretly on an issue
Suffrage	The right to vote in political elections
Election	A formal and organized choice by vote
Manifesto	A public declaration of policy and aims before an election
Representation	The act of speaking on behalf of someone
Campaign	An organized course of action to achieve a goal

Members of Parliament meet in the Palace of Westminster near the River Thames.

Big Ben, one of London's most iconic landmarks, is here.





What significant events happen in the history of Parliament?

The first English Parliament: The Magna Carta was signed in **1215**, which first gave the rights of wealthy nobles (wealthy men who owned land) to give advice to the King.

In 1534, following a disagreement with the Catholic Pope, Henry VIII sets up The Church of England, and Parliament's importance grows.

1642—1651—The English Civil War saw the Monarch (Charles 1) disagree with Parliament (including Oliver Cromwell) about who should have power.

1918: Women are given the right to vote, and people were no longer able to be Members of Parliament based on property ownership.

In 1999, the Parliaments of Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales separated from England.

What is suffrage?

Before 1918, all women were not allowed to vote in general elections. Whilst some men and MPs (such as George Lansbury) supported women's right to vote, the majority of men opposed it.

The **Suffragists** focused on **lobbying** locally and nationally to try and gain the vote for women. Their leader was Millicent Fawcett.

The **Suffragettes** went to greater lengths for the cause, including illegal and violent campaigns. Their leader was Emmeline Pankhurst

To their credit the suffrage movement in Britain fought for the vote for all women and did not discriminate on grounds of race unlike in America or Australia. But the politics of the era was complex. The British Empire was at its height and Britain had colonies all around the world.

River Thames

The River Thames is the an important rive in Britain.

The Thames had an important role in the transportation of goods and people. During Tudor times, London prospered as a port and a centre of world trade, and in 1510 Henry VIII granted licenses to watermen giving them exclusive rights to carry passengers on the river. Interestingly, it was also the River Thames that hosted Henry VIII's final journey as his body was taken by boat from Whitehall (where he died) to Windsor.

The Thames Barrier is downstream of central London. It was built in 1982 to prevent high tides flooding Greater London.



Politics in our local area

Local government is responsible for a range of vital services for people and businesses in defined areas. Among them are well known functions such as social care, schools, housing and planning and waste collection, but also lesser known ones such as licensing, business support, registrar services and pest control.

County Councils and smaller area Councils have different responsibilities. Members are elected by local residents who try to make changes in the local area. Members of Parliament visit Westminster to help the Government to make policies and bring their local issues forwards.

Consider what issues might be important in South Harrow. Could it be the local environment and building work? Health or education? Homelessness?

Manifestos

a picture of yourself, and some information about who you are?

information about which political party you represent?

your ideas for key issues in the local area?

a summary of your election promises?

information about how and where people can vote?

a catchy motto or statement which sums up your aims and beliefs?