



# Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School & Sixth Form Centre

*'True Teaching'*

Headmaster: Dr Simon Uttley FRSA KHS

Fawley Road, Reading, Berkshire RG30 3EP

Email: [admin@hughfaringdon.org](mailto:admin@hughfaringdon.org)

Telephone: 0118 957 4730

Website: [www.hughfaringdon.org](http://www.hughfaringdon.org)

[@bhfc](https://twitter.com/bhfc)

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July 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Politics Class and Model United Nations Parliament Tour and Workshop: Friday 8 September 2023

We are delighted to inform you that students of Year 12 and 13 Politics class and those involved in Model United Nations have been given a unique opportunity to visit London for an engaging Parliament Tour and Workshop. This educational excursion aims to deepen their understanding of the legislative process and provide hands-on experience in the law-making procedures of the UK Parliament.

During the highly interactive workshop, our students will explore how an idea transforms into law within the UK Parliament. They will actively engage in role-play, debate, and discussions centred around a topic of their choice. This experience will take them through the five stages of a bill, focusing on the House of Commons and the House of Lords. By examining the roles of the Government and Parliament in the law-making process, students will gain a comprehensive understanding of various aspects, including types of bills, policy creation, public consultation, and methods of scrutiny by Parliament.

We believe this opportunity will empower our students to become active citizens in our thriving democracy, enabling them to influence decisions that directly impact their lives. Furthermore, students will be able to compare historical and contemporary examples of Pressure Groups, Lobby Groups, and Think Tanks. This analysis will allow them to evaluate the extent to which these groups influence government policies. Through an engaging activity utilizing a physical axis as a scale, students will answer questions on each group's methods, status, visibility, and extremity. They will then conclude whether one method is more effective in influencing change. The groups to be examined include Extinction Rebellion, 38 Degrees, Stonewall, and The Institute of Economic Affairs.

The trip is scheduled to take place on Friday 8 September 2023, students will need to meet at Reading Train Station at 7.30am. Students will be taking the 2.48pm train from Waterloo which will arrive at Reading Station at 3.52pm.

We will be travelling to London via train, and the cost of a return ticket is as follows:

- Students above the age of 16 at the time of the trip: £49.70
- Students under the age of 16 at the time of the trip: £24.85

If you would like your child to attend this event, please make payment on ParentPay by **Monday 28 August 2023** along with completing all the relevant sections with regards to the trip on ParentPay.



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If we are able to receive a group booking discount, you will be refunded accordingly. If your child has a railcard and wishes to purchase their own ticket in advance, please inform myself.

**Students will need to bring a packed lunch and drinking water (if your child receives a free school meal then a lunch will be provided and can order their lunch on the day of the trip which will be either a Sandwich and Water or a Sandwich and a Cookie) or money to buy themselves lunch.**

This trip is an excellent opportunity for our students to expand their knowledge and practical understanding of the UK Parliament and the law-making process. We highly encourage your child to participate in this educational experience, as it aligns with the curriculum and will greatly enhance their understanding of politics and governance.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this trip, please do not hesitate to contact myself at [s.hopkins@hughfaringdon.org](mailto:s.hopkins@hughfaringdon.org).

Thank you for your continued support in enriching our students' educational opportunities.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S. Hopkins

Social Sciences Teacher  
Head for Girls' Achievement and Engagement