Edexcel Government & Politics for AS: Scheme of Work

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Subject Topics are fixed but Resources & Tasks are suggested and not intended to preclude individual inspiration or further development

The Prime Minister and Cabinet

Key content	Key Question	Suggested activities
	How are governments formed?	**McNaughton p243-44** **Starter:** Draw the process of a government being formed – no writing allowed **Main:** Add exceptions / problems to original sketch **Plenary:** Add text to sketch. Present to rest of group
	What is the structure of a government?	**McNaughton p244-46** **Starter:** Show class a picture of the cabinet. Try to add names / positions. Is this the government? **Main:** Heads & tails from text **Plenary:** How does the PM choose his ministers? Give class a list of factors. Tick /cross against each. Discuss.
	How has cabinet government changed?	**McNaughton p249-52** **Starter:** Discuss topical political story **Main:** Storyboard changes in cabinet government across recent times **Plenary:**
	Is the cabinet today strong or weak?	**McNaughton p** **Starter:** Read through & discuss a recent reshuffle or resignation story. Does this show a weak or strong cabinet? **Main:** Card sort on functions and weaknesses of cabinet **Plenary:** Pupils answer the key question
	Who is in the cabinet today?	**McNaughton p255** **Starter:** **Main:** Student activity p255 **Plenary:**
	What are the key functions of the PM?	**McNaughton p**

			Starter: Pupils given three definitions of 'Collective responsibility'. They have to choose the correct one. **Main:** Each pupil is allocated one of six key functions. Research an example / news story that summarises their key function **Plenary:** Present to rest of class
		Does Gordon Brown enjoy power & authority?	**McNaughton p** **Starter:** Pupils give initial reaction to key question **Main:** Assess (give mark out of 10) level of power / authority on four sources **Plenary:** Pupils give considered reaction to key question
		How are PMs kicked out of office?	**McNaughton p** **Starter:** Pupils draw conclusions from news stories on fall of Tony Blair / Margaret Thatcher **Main:** Pupils create Heads & Tails activity based on text **Plenary:** Summarise answer to key question in no more than 20 words
		Is the PM now effectively a President?	**McNaughton p264-66** **Starter:** Recap on definitions of PM & President **Main:** Using information in text and green box (p265) pupils come up with the five strongest arguments for and against the key question. Rank in importance. **Plenary:** Class votes on the proposition
		How is the government structured?	**McNaughton p266** **Starter:** Discuss a topical political story **Main:** Pupils create a spider diagram of the government **Plenary:**
		What is the difference between Ministers & Civil Servants?	**McNaughton p268-70** **Starter:** 'Articulate' recap game **Main:** Place cards on a line of certainty **Plenary:**
	Mock exam using questions on p272-73		