

## Active Citizenship Campaign- Essential Knowledge

### Stage 1: Deciding the question or issue

Students must select a contemporary issue/debate arising from the specification content. It can be local, national or international or a combination of all three strands.

Following initial research and discussion, students construct a question/issue for which they need to undertake further research.

### Stage 2: Carrying out the initial research

Students research the issue using both primary and secondary sources.

### Stage 3: Planning the action

As a part of their research, students may develop further sets of questions which link and support their main question/issue.

As a result of their research, students should be able to arrive at both results and conclusions which will help them to plan their citizenship action.

### Stage 4: Taking the action

Following their research, students are expected to take some form of informed action based upon their research. This may take a variety of forms from letter writing, petitioning, using e-media, volunteering or establishing a group to promote a change.

### Stage 5: Assessing the impact of the action

At the conclusion of their work students should reflect upon their approach to the investigation, the methods they used and any outcome achieved.

### Stage 6: Evaluating the whole process

At this stage students should evaluate their whole investigative process and attempt to establish what went well and what could have been done differently.

**Citizenship links** your project must fit into one of the topics you have studied in Citizenship

#### Life in modern Britain

- Principles and values in British society
- Identity
- Media and free press
- The UK's role in key international organisations
- Making a difference in society

#### Rights and Responsibilities

- Laws in contemporary society
- Rights and responsibilities within the legal system
- How laws protect the citizen and deal with criminals
- Universal human rights
- Bringing about change in the legal system

#### Politics and Participation

- Political power in the UK
- Local and devolved government
- Where does political power reside?
- How do others govern themselves?
- Bringing about political change

**Choosing an issue – e.g. Knife crime**

**Research question – e.g. Why is knife crime an increasing issue in the UK?**

**Secondary Research**-secondary research uses primary research sources as a source of data for analysis. E.g.

*“Overall, London remains the most dangerous part of England and Wales - but data, obtained from 34 of the 43 police forces, shows the rate of serious knife crime offences rising sharply in some areas outside London, and outstripping some of the city's boroughs in places like the city of Manchester, Slough, Liverpool and Blackpool.”*

**Contacting experts- Police officers, MP's, teachers, victims, nurses etc.**

**Letter- Who are you? What are you doing? Why are you doing it? Include statistics. Use various persuasive techniques.**

**Student/ expert questionnaires:**

**Open questions-a question that cannot be answered with a "yes" or "no" response, or with a static response. Open-ended questions are phrased as a statement which requires a response.**

**Closed questions-question for which a researcher provides research participants with options from which to choose a response.**

**Taking action-** Posters/ leaflets, videos, presentations, school assemblies, social media pages, petition, protest, boycott, lobbying.

**Advantages-** Reaching large target audiences, allows people to ask questions, gets media attention.

**Disadvantages-** Small target audience, limited impact, gives a negative perception, more work.

**Feedback- What went well? Even better if. What do you feedback forms say? Was it a success, if so how?**

**Action Planning- When, where, who, how, what, why?**

**Group work-**

Advantages	Disadvantages
Share the workload	Organisational issues
Have different skills	Unequal work loads
Supportive	Time keeping issues
Time effective	Differences in opinions
Different ideas	
More resources	

## British Values (Speech by David Cameron)

1. Democracy
2. Rule of law
3. Individual liberty
4. Tolerance
5. Equality



## Essential Knowledge Sheet

### Life in Modern Britain



### Key Terms

**British Values** – values associated with modern day Britain

**Citizenship** – a legal status conferred by a state upon members of the state

**Democracy** – the people have the power to decide how a country is run (voting)

**Liberty** – freedom

**Multicultural society** – a society that comprises people from a range of cultural and religious backgrounds

**Rule of law** – the law applies equally to all people

**Tolerance** – to show understanding of people with different views and opinions

**Values** – standards of behaviour that are accepted by a society.

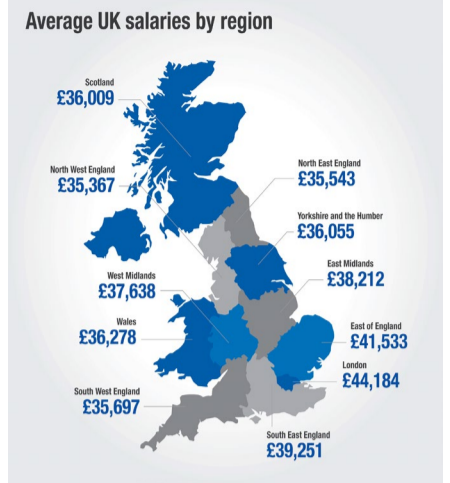
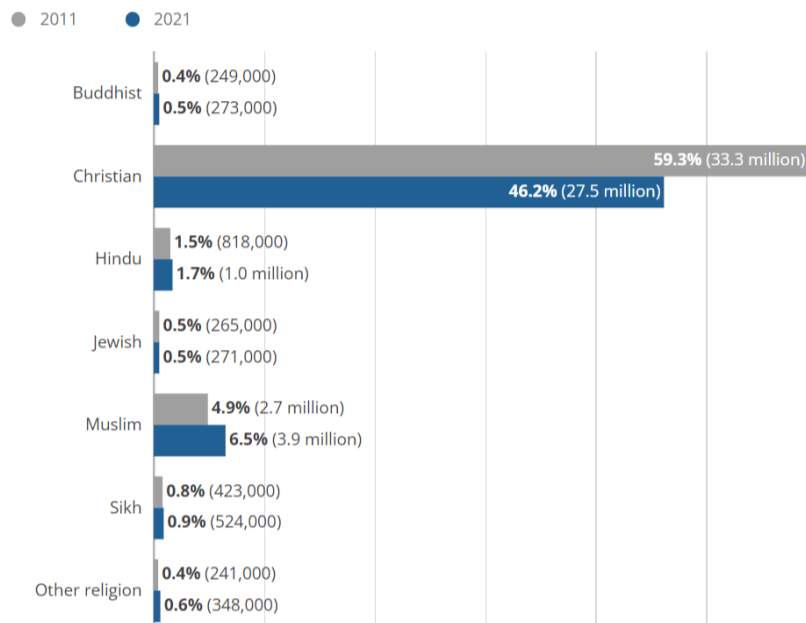


Figure 1: The percentage of the population reporting "No religion" has increased

Religious composition, 2011 and 2021, England and Wales



Global events such as the world recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and international events (war in Ukraine, Taliban takeover in Afghanistan and National Security Law in Hong Kong), along with policy changes introduced as part of the new Immigration system and the end of EU freedom of movement, have all had an impact on migration.

**Multiple identity** – the idea that there are a number of parts to our identity – religion, sexual orientation, race, culture, disability, geography, age, gender etc.

The **IPSO** investigates violations of the press code in relation to: Accuracy, opportunity to reply, privacy, harassment, intrusion into grief, children in sex cases, hospitals, reporting of crime, victims of sexual assault, discrimination, financial journalism, confidential sources, witness payment in criminal trials, payments to criminals. *The press code is an example of self-censorship.*

### Media

**Traditional** – newspapers, radio, books,

**Social media** – X (formerly twitter), Facebook, Instagram

**New media** – those relating to the internet age

**Mass media** – the ability to communicate with many people at once

The media can hold those in power to account through its use of the free press - for a democratic society to exist the press should be free from political and judicial interference. They should be able to print the stories they wish, within the law.

**Case study example – Daily Telegraph published information about MP expenses claims.**

The media also have the right to report, but there are limitations. **Case Study example - News of the World newspaper – closed down following allegations that its reporters broke the press code – phone hacking**

**Censorship** – the withholding of information from the public.

### International Organisations

#### UN (United Nations)

Established 1945. The general assembly is a forum all 193 members belong to. The security council has 5 permanent and 10 non-permanent members, Important document – Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)

#### Commonwealth

56 member countries, representing about 30% of the world population. All members must agree the rules in the Commonwealth charter (democracy, human rights, the rule of law). King Charles III is the head of the Commonwealth.

#### NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organisation)

Intergovernmental military defence alliance. Established 1949. UK is a founding member. Currently 32 members. All members should pay 2% of their GDP into the defence budget. Aside from EU countries USA Canada and Turkey are also members. NATO's article 5 – an attack on one member is an attack on all members.

#### WTO (World Trade Organisation)

UK joined in 1955. There are 164 member countries and HQ is in Geneva, Switzerland. It deals with trading rules between nations. The WTO claims to cut living costs, settle trade disputes, help development of countries and contribute to peace and stability.

#### EU (European Union)

Formerly known as EEC. UK joined in 1973. The UK voted to leave the EU in 2016. There are currently 27 members, now the UK has left. The UK must now make separate trade agreements with countries it wishes to trade with.



#### Council of Europe

A total of 47 countries in the council of Europe (inc. 27 EU members). All member countries agree to abide by the European Convention of Human Rights. The European Court of human Rights oversees the implementation of the Convention. Any member may approach the Court if they feel there have been human rights violations only after all other avenues in own country have been exhausted.

**Referendum** – a yes or no vote on a particular issue.  
Examples: Scottish referendum of independence, should UK remain in the EU? (Brexit)

**Humanitarian Aid** – working with other agencies to resolve international issues.

**NGO – non-government organisation** – eg - Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament & Save the Children.

Examples of participation in democracy:

Protest, demonstration, boycott, lobbying, writing letters to MP, standing in an election, becoming a councillor, trespass, assassination, voting, serve on a jury.

Interest group are organisations of people that share a common interest. They can be single cause, multi cause, protective or promotional. **They only become a pressure group when they put pressure on the government to change policy.**

Volunteer groups are people who give up their time to help others.

#### Case studies for making change:

- Fathers for Justice
- Jazzy's Crossing
- Westmill wind farm
- East London Community Recycling Partnership
- Jamie Oliver
- Migrant Crisis
- Stop the War

#### Where can I find more information?

- Teams (Exam papers Past questions Revision flash cards Quizzes)
- Revision guides from your teacher or online
- AQA website
- Intervention sessions



# Essential Knowledge Sheet – Politics and Participation

Parliament is made up of 3 parts – the House of Lords, House of Commons and the Monarchy (the King)

TYPES OF DEMOCRACY	
Democracy	A system of government with an open and fair electoral system. Electors choose who runs the country.
Liberal democracy	A system based upon a representative democracy, linked to freedoms and rights for citizens
Direct democracy	A system of government where all citizens take part in decision making (e.g. referendums)
Representative democracy	Citizens are elected to represent others in an assembly (e.g. an MP or councillor)



**ANARCHY**  
No government operates. There are no rules or laws

**DICTATORSHIP**  
Rule by one person or a group, which is all powerful.

**OTHER TYPES OF RULE**

**ONE-PARTY STATE**  
One political party exists and runs the country.

**THEOCRACY**  
A religious leader runs the country

The Values that underpin our liberal democracy are: **rights, responsibilities, freedoms and the rule of law.**

The method of voting in this country is **First Past the Post**. This is an election system based upon the person with the highest number of votes in each area winning the election.

**Key words**

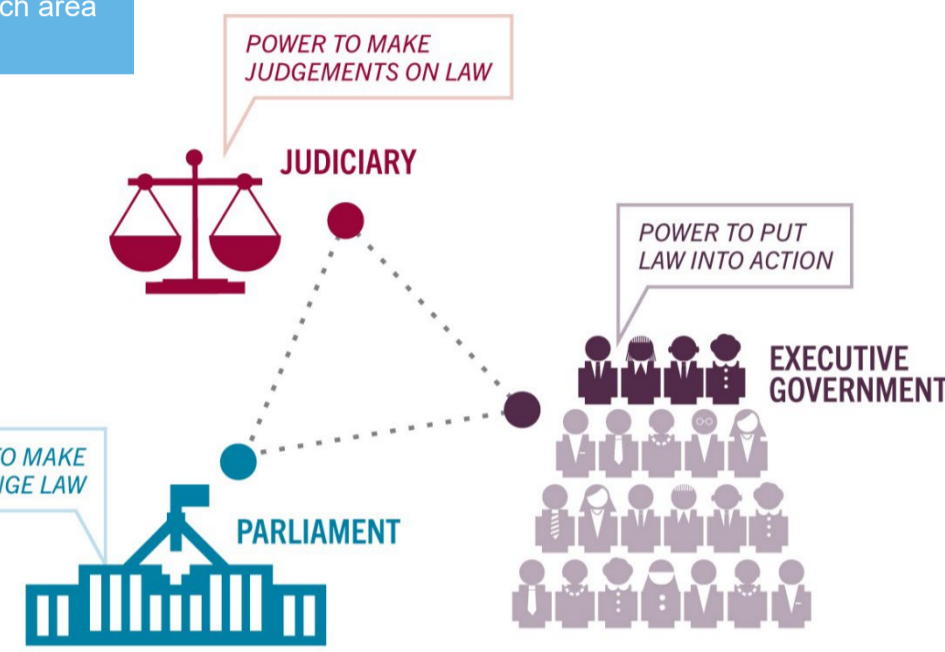
**Bicameral** – made up of two chambers. (The House of Lords and the House of Commons)

**Legislature** – the collective term for the two chambers of Parliament (Lords and Commons)

**Manifesto** – a document outlining the policies a political party will introduce if they gain power.

**Prime Minister** – the head of government, the leader of the winning party (Currently Kier Starmer - Labour)

**SEPARATION of POWERS**



This includes local councils (e.g. BMBC) and parish councils. They deal with things affecting the local area – libraries, rubbish collection, maintenance of parks, transport planning.



Central government (MP's) are responsible for national issues like Tax, defence, health and education.

Devolved matters include:	Reserved matters include:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agriculture, forestry and fisheries</li> <li>Education and training</li> <li>Environment</li> <li>Health and social services</li> <li>Housing</li> <li>Land use planning</li> <li>Law and order</li> <li>Local government</li> <li>Sport and the arts</li> <li>Some forms of taxation</li> <li>Many aspects of transport</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Benefits and social security</li> <li>Broadcasting</li> <li>Constitution</li> <li>Defence</li> <li>Employment</li> <li>Equal opportunities</li> <li>Foreign policy</li> <li>Immigration</li> <li>Trade and industry</li> </ul>

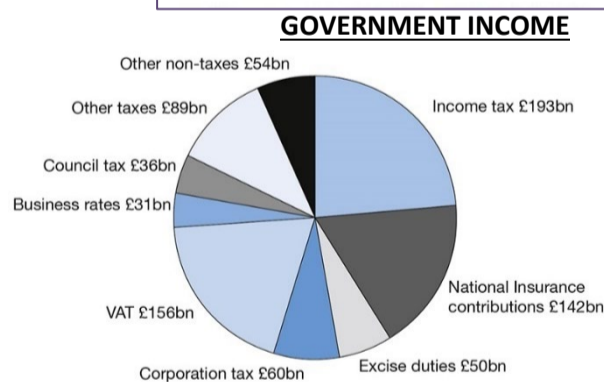
Devolved power is when power is taken from central government and given elsewhere. Scotland is a good example of this (see to the left). Where some powers are kept centrally these are called **reserved powers**.

**IMPORTANT DISCUSSION POINTS RELATNG TO GOVERNMENT**

- The state pension age
- Housing Benefits
- Universal Credit
- NHS
- Working Tax Credits
- Child Benefits
- Education
- Voting age reduction

**Rules for voting in a general election:**

- ✓ Over 18
- ✓ Registered to vote
- ✓ Not been told legally you cannot vote
- ✓ British citizen
- X Detained under Mental Health Act
- X A Lord
- X Convicted of crime / in prison
- X Found guilty of corrupt or illegal practices in relation to elections



**Rules for standing in an election (at least 1 below)**

- ✓ Be a registered elector
- ✓ Occupied as owner or tenant any land in the local area for 12 months prior
- ✓ Place of work in the local area (12 months prior)

**In addition, you may not stand for election if:**

- X You are employed by the local authority
- X You hold a politically restricted post
- X you have a bankruptcy order against you
- X Imprisonment for 3months or more in the last 5 years
- X Disqualification under the Representation of the People Act

Judges, police officers, armed forces members, civil servants, peers and Bishops (also Lords) may not become MPs as it is important that we have separation of who makes the laws, and who enforces them (see Separation of Powers diagram above).

**Select Committees** – these are groups of MP's who get together and consider draft legislation. They can also oversee government department work. In the House of Lords select committees are concerned with issues such as Europe, Science, Economics, Communications and the UK constitution.

**Cabinet** – this is the term for the different government departments (E.G. The Home office, Foreign office). They are run by senior MP's selected by the Prime Minister. These MP's are given the title 'Secretary of State for ...'

**Ceremonial Roles in Parliament**  
**Black Rod** – responsible for the state opening or Parliament  
**Whip** – MP's or Lords whose responsibility it is to organise their MP's / Lords, ensuring they attend meetings and vote.  
**The Speaker** – an MP elected by other MP's to chair proceedings in the House of Commons.  
**Front / Backbenchers** – front benchers are government or shadow ministers who sit at the front facing each other. Backbenchers are MP's who are not ministers – they might be from independent parties.





**The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UNDHR)**

- Article 1 Right to Equality
- Article 2 Freedom from Discrimination
- Article 3 Right to Life, Liberty, Personal Security
- Article 4 Freedom from Slavery
- Article 5 Freedom from Torture and Degrading Treatment
- Article 6 Right to Recognition as a Person before the Law
- Article 7 Right to Equality before the Law
- Article 8 Right to Remedy by Competent Tribunal
- Article 9 Freedom from Arbitrary Arrest and Exile
- Article 10 Right to Fair Public Hearing
- Article 11 Right to be Considered Innocent until Proven Guilty
- Article 12 Freedom from Interference with Privacy, Family, Home and Correspondence
- Article 13 Right to Free Movement in and out of the Country
- Article 14 Right to Asylum in other Countries from Persecution
- Article 15 Right to a Nationality and the Freedom to Change It
- Article 16 Right to Marriage and Family
- Article 17 Right to Own Property
- Article 18 Freedom of Belief and Religion
- Article 19 Freedom of Opinion and Information
- Article 20 Right of Peaceful Assembly and Association
- Article 21 Right to Participate in Government and in Free Elections
- Article 22 Right to Social Security
- Article 23 Right to Desirable Work and to Join Trade Unions
- Article 24 Right to Rest and Leisure
- Article 25 Right to Adequate Living Standard
- Article 26 Right to Education
- Article 27 Right to Participate in the Cultural Life of Community
- Article 28 Right to a Social Order that Articulates this Document
- Article 29 Community Duties Essential to Free and Full Development
- Article 30 Freedom from State or Personal Interference in the above Rights



**Rights and legal entitlements of citizens at different ages.**

Age	Legal Rights
13	Work, within certain restrictions e.g. number of hours worked.
14	Go into a pub, but you cannot drink or buy alcohol.
16	Hold a licence for a moped. Drink wine/beer with a meal in a restaurant. Choose your own doctor.
17	Hold a licence to drive any vehicle except HGVs.
18	Drink and purchase alcohol. Purchase tobacco. Get married. Get a credit card. Play the National lottery

Issue	Civil Law	Criminal Law
Case brought by	Individual or group or organisation	CPS on behalf of the state
Decision	Defendant found <b>liable</b> in regard to the issue.	<b>Defendant is convicted</b> if found <b>guilty</b> or <b>acquitted</b> if found <b>not guilty</b>
Proof required	More likely than not – depends on weight of evidence	Beyond reasonable doubt (that person is guilty and no one else could have done it)
Burden of proof	The <b>claimant</b> must give the proof to support their claim.	The accused is <b>innocent until proven guilty</b> . The prosecution must prove their case; the accused does not have to prove their innocence.
Punishment	<b>Damages, compensation</b> or an <b>injunction</b> (an order to stop taking an action)	Non-custodial or custodial sentence if found guilty.
Appeal	Either party can appeal a court's decision.	Defendant may appeal against a court's verdict in regard to either the verdict or the sentence.

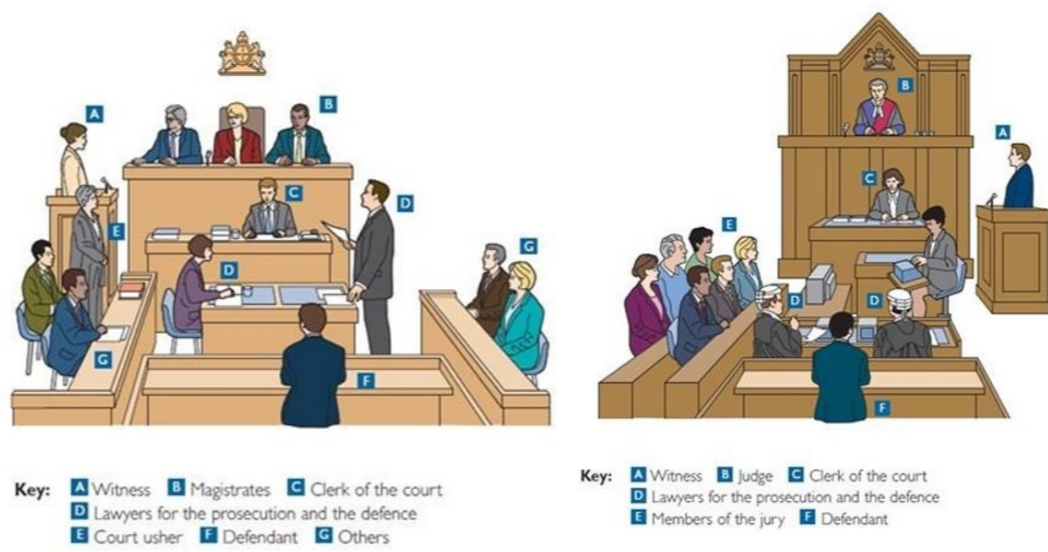
**The Equality & Human Rights Commission (EHCR):**

The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) monitors human rights, protecting equality across 9 categories - age, disability, gender, race, religion and belief, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership, sexual orientation and gender reassignment. As well as explaining the law, the EHRC can enforce it. EHRC has written a set of guidance to ensure the Equality Act is applied successfully.

**Enforcement of the Equality Act 2010:**

Under the Equality Act people are not allowed to discriminate, harass or victimise another person because they have any of the 9 protected characteristics. The EHRC's powers include helping individual people with their legal cases; and taking action against organisations that appear to have broken the law.

**Rights and Responsibilities Essential Knowledge Sheet**



Purpose of Sentencing:	Types of Custodial sentences:	Types of Non-Custodial sentences:
1. To punish the offender.	1. Imprisonment	Fines
2. Seek to reduce crime – deterrence.	2. Life sentences	Community sentences
3. Reform and rehabilitation of the offender (change behaviour).	3. Extended sentences	Ancillary orders
4. Protect the community.	4. Determinate sentences	Discharge
5. Reparation – offender makes amends to people affected by their crimes.	5. Suspended sentences	Electronic tagging

**Does prison work?**

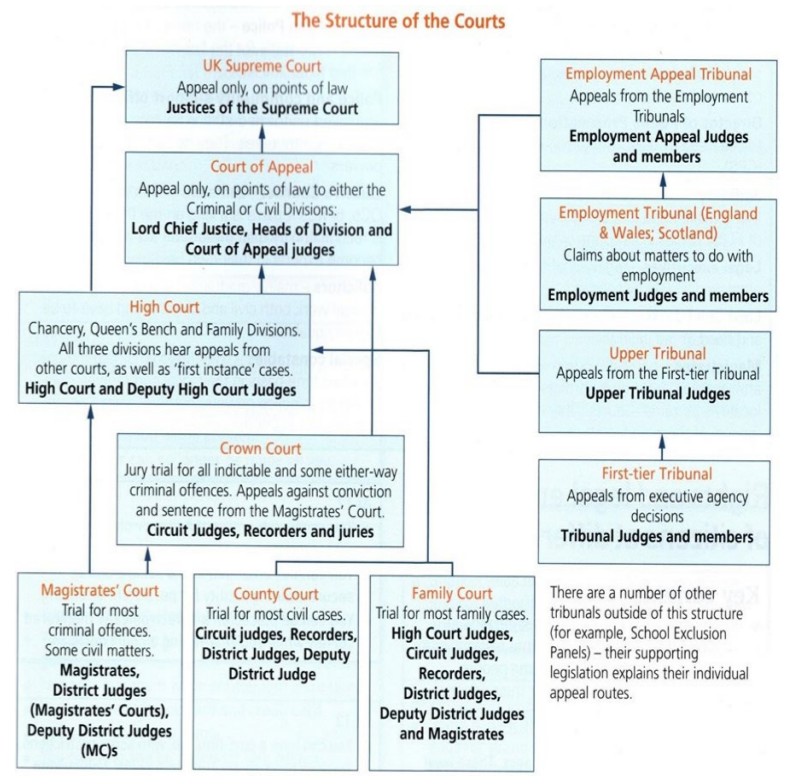
1. Prisoners serving less than a year have the highest re-offending rate. 59% re-offend.
2. One in four prisoners re-offend within a year.
3. It is estimated that re-offending in England and Wales costs the taxpayer up to £13 billion per year.

Public Health England

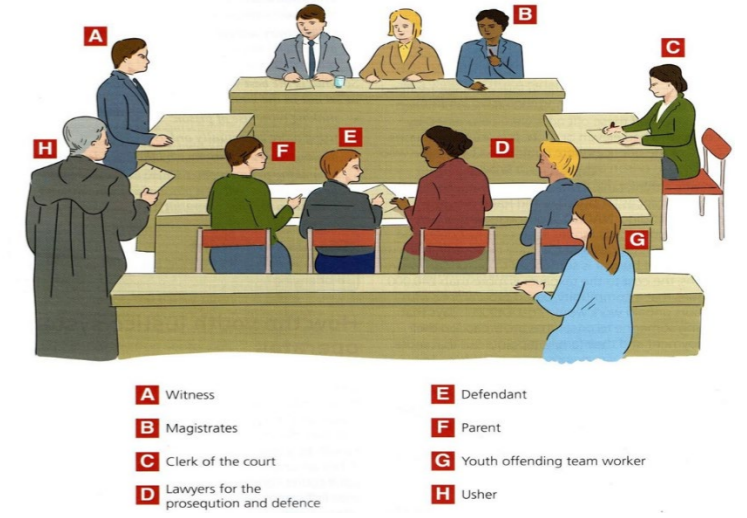
**Investing in drug & alcohol treatment saves money**

- £2.4 billion** Combined benefits of drug and alcohol treatment
- £4** Social return on every £1 invested in drug treatment a total of **£21** over 10 years
- £3** Social return on every £1 invested in alcohol treatment a total of **£26** over 10 years

Crime, Social care, Health, QALY improvements



- The court can give a range of community sentences or Detention and Training Orders, which are served in secure centres for young people:
- Detention and Training Orders
  - fines up to £1000
  - Youth Community Orders
  - Reparation Orders
  - Referral Orders
  - absolute or conditional discharge
  - ancillary orders
  - binding over the offender's parents.
- The sentence given will take into account:
- the age of the offender
  - the seriousness of the crime
  - whether the offender has a criminal record
  - whether the offender pleaded guilty or not guilty.
- The court takes into account any **aggravating or mitigating circumstances** before it passes sentence. The press are allowed to report the case but not the name of the accused, their address or school, or information relating to any other young person involved in the case.



**Case Study – James Bulger**

February 1993 – James Bulger, aged two, was abducted from a shopping centre and brutally murdered by Jon Venables and Robert Thompson – both aged ten.

November 1999 – Venables and Thompson convicted and sentenced to at least eight years of secure Youth Accommodation.

December 1999 – The European Court of Human Rights decided the two did not receive a fair trial as the case was heard in an adult court.

October 2000 – Lord Chief Justice ruled Thompson and Venables could apply for parole.

June 2001 – Thompson and Venables freed on 'Life Licences' – freed but if they break conditions of their licence they return to prison to complete their sentence.

March 2010 – Venables returned to prison for breaking the terms of his licence.