

# Interested in politics?

## What is politics?

Politics plays a role in every country in the world, whether it be democratic, communist or otherwise. It's through politics, and political ideas, that many important questions are answered, and global challenges are addressed – including human rights, poverty, equality, and welfare.

Politicians use their broad range of skills to stand up for what they believe in, and what's right. Using their intelligence and communication skills, along with their powers of persuasion and charisma, politicians fight for the opportunity to occupy a place in government where they can make changes for good. Whether you want to become a politician, or you're simply fascinated by the subject, studying politics will leave you with an arsenal of skills that will serve you well in most careers.

## What are some of the big ideas in politics?

Activity: Watch the following School of Life short videos on political philosophers. Out of the four, decide who is your favourite political philosopher and *why*. The thinkers relate to some of the big ideas we study like **socialism**, **conservatism** and **liberalism**.

**Thomas Hobbes** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9i4jb5XBX5s>

**John Rawls** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5-JQ17X6VNg>

**John Locke** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bZiWZJgJT7I>

**Karl Marx** - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fSQgCy\\_ilcc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fSQgCy_ilcc)