




Learning Objectives: Be able to explain how our government and parliament function

What have I already learned?	Key Information	Key Vocabulary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain what responsibility means and rights and duties at school and home Share some examples of rules and laws that are used to protect themselves and others Understand what local democracy is and how it works within the community 	<p>What does Democracy mean? Members of Parliament are elected to represent the views of people living in their local area. MPs make sure the views and ideas of people living in their local area are represented and give them 'a voice' in Parliament. Together, people who belong to the party agree on changes they will make if they are elected. These are called policies.</p> <p>Our democracy allows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> People a way of choosing and replacing representatives through fair elections Depends on laws which apply equally to all citizens and protects the human rights of all citizens Encourages citizens to participate in politics and community life 	<p>Ballot – system of voting secretly</p> <p>Candidates - individual that aims to encourage others to vote for them to represent their community</p> <p>Voting - a formal expression of choice</p>
<p>Voting Every citizen should listen to the views of the different parties and candidates and then make his or her own decision on whom to support. People must be 18 or over in order to take part in an election. Each person (voter) votes ('casts a ballot') for the candidate of his or her choice. People cast their ballots in a booth so that no one can see who they are voting for. This is called a 'secret ballot'. At the end of the election day, the votes are added up and the candidate with the highest number of votes (the majority) is declared the winner.</p> <p>The UK is split up into areas called constituencies and during an election all the people living in the same area have a vote to choose a person to represent their area.</p> 	<p>House Of Lords The House of Lords has 742 members who are appointed, not elected. Members of the House of Lords scrutinise and debate bills which have passed through the House of Commons and question government parts they are concerned about. They can stop a bill from passing into law although the House of Commons can overrule this after a certain amount of time has passed.</p>   <p>House of Commons The House of Commons meets in the Palace of Westminster. The House is an elected body, consisting of members known as members of parliament (MPs). MPs consider and propose new laws and can scrutinise government policies by asking ministers questions about current issues either in the Commons Chamber or in Committees.</p>	<p>Democracy – rule of the people</p> <p>House of commons - the part of parliament in Britain or Canada whose members are elected.</p> <p>House of Lords - The House of Lords is the second chamber of the UK Parliament</p> <p>Houses of Parliament - The Houses of Parliament are the British parliament, which consists of two parts, the House of Commons and the House of Lords. The buildings where the British parliament does its work are also called the Houses of Parliament.</p> <p>Member of Parliament - person who has been elected to the parliament of a country</p> <p>Political party - an organization that coordinates candidates to compete in a particular country's elections. It is common for the members of a party to hold similar ideas about politics.</p> <p>Ballot box - a sealed box into which voters put completed ballot papers.</p> 