



## 08 - VOCABULARY: POLITICS IN THE UK



**Party:** Group with similar feelings or ambitions on how the country should be run.

**Electorate:** The public who voted for someone

**Constituency:** Areas of the UK. One person represents a Constituency in Parliament. For example: Brighton West, or South Kensington North.

**Candidates:** People who put themselves forward to be voted for in an Election.

**Campaign:** The organised process of trying to persuade people to vote for you.

**Votes:** A secret process of one person choosing someone to represent them in Parliament.

**To be elected/To get elected:** To be the Candidate with the most votes!

**Polling station:** The local hall or office where people go to vote.

**Term of office:** The period of time a Government is in power.

**Prime Minister:** The leader of the ruling Party.

**Deputy Prime Minister:** The assistant to the Prime Minister and the person who takes control in the absence of the Prime Minister.

**Minister:** A person in government (ruling Party) who is in charge of a Department.

**Junior Minister:** An assistant in the leadership of a Department.

**Cabinet:** The core leadership of the ruling party. 12 people, each one is head of a major Department, therefore they are all Ministers. All decisions by the Prime Minister have to be agreed by Cabinet.

**MP:** Member of Parliament

**GOVERNMENT:** The group of people who control the laws and affairs of the country. This includes all voted representatives in Parliament PLUS all the departments, and people in those departments, working for the government.

**PARLIAMENT:** All those involved in MAKING laws. The Queen, the HOUSE OF LORDS, and the HOUSE OF COMMONS, are part of Parliament.

**ELECTION:** The Queen DISSOLVES the current parliament and the Prime Minister CALLS a General Election. A General Election is held once every 5 years.