How Parliament Works

09:30 Welcome & Introductions

09:45 Introduction to Parliament

Introductory discussion on the structure of Parliament and its relationship with Government

10:00 Inside the Chamber

- Understanding the layout of the Commons Chamber, who is in there and the role of each group
- The role and influence of the Speaker
- Understanding the House of Lords and the differences between the Lords and the Commons
- The Annual Parliamentary timetable

11:00 Break

11:15 Parliamentary Business

- What happens on a normal day?
- Understanding the different types of Parliamentary Business and why some matter more than others
- The role of the Whips

12:15 The route of policy from the civil service to the Queen

- Where do policy ideas come from?
- From White Paper to legislation
- The route of legislation through Parliament

13:00 Lunch

13:30 Holding the Government to account

Understanding the tools available to MPs in all parties to hold the Government to account, including Private Member's Bills, statements, parliamentary questions

14:15 Parliamentary Committees

Understanding the role and operation of Committees in the Commons and the Lords

15:00 Break

15:15 Frontbench MPs

The role of Ministers and Shadow Ministers in Parliament

16:15 Backbench MPs



- Identifying the tools available to backbenchers and understanding how backbench MPs campaign within Parliament and effect change
- The role and activities of APPGs
- Debates in Westminster Hall

17:00 Final questions and close

