



**How can I take part in the
democratic process?
The role of Select
Committee**

Lesson 6

**Key Stage 4 scheme of work:
Should the UK be called a democracy?**

Lesson 6

How can I take part in the democratic process?

<p>Context</p>	<p>This lesson is part of a scheme of work that comprises six lessons for teaching Key Stage 4 Citizenship in line with the requirements of the Citizenship National Curriculum. The lesson is part of the ACT model Key Stage 4 curriculum, which can be used and adapted to fit with your school's provision.</p> <p>Each scheme of work has an enquiry question as the focus and is then organised into smaller questions that provide a learning focus for each lesson.</p>
<p>Overview</p>	<p>This lesson introduces students to the work of select committees and the role they play in our democratic system. By taking part in a mock select committee, students learn that this is an important way in which they can become part of the democratic process and shape policy and law.</p> <p>This lesson has been designed for delivery as a double lesson. Timings for each task are given as guidelines.</p>
<p>Citizenship Skills and Concepts</p>	<p>Democracy, action, rights, problem solving, enquiry, debate</p>
<p>Essential Teaching Guidance</p>	<p>The main body of this lesson is an independent group task in which students run a simulated select committee and carry out an inquiry.</p> <p>Please look through the information in the workbook 'Running a select committee and carrying out an inquiry' to make sure you're happy that it is suitable for your group. For example, one article discusses the law around sharing nude images, which may not be appropriate for some members of your class (this is for you to decide).</p> <p>If you wish, you could adapt this lesson to suit your group. For example, you could choose a different select committee focus and either research the subject matter as a class or allow students</p>

	<p>internet access to do this themselves.</p> <p>You can adapt this to suit your group; for example, you could choose a subject matter to research together as a class, or you could allow them access to the internet to do this themselves.</p> <p>Where the issues raised in teaching the lesson may be sensitive or controversial in nature, please ensure you are in line with your school policies on such matters. You may also find the ACT guidance on teaching sensitive and controversial issues in Citizenship helpful.</p>
<p>Learning Questions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What are select committees and how are they run? ● How can we measure the success of select committees? ● How can I take part in the democratic process through select committees? ● Should the UK be called a democracy?
<p>Lesson Resources</p>	<p>Slide presentation</p> <p>Video clips about the work of select committees for the Starter Task:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Learn Live (from 1 min 11 to 2 min 42) ● Learn Live (from 16 min 49 to 18 min 52) <p>Digital safety case studies – for Task 2</p> <p>Report writing worksheet – for Task 3</p> <p>Link to democracy indices for Plenary/Reflection – https://freedomhouse.org/countries/freedom-world/scores</p>
<p>Differentiation</p>	<p>Encourage students to take on different roles in the simulated select committee activity.</p>
<p>Assessment Opportunities</p>	<p>This lesson offers a range of opportunities to assess students' knowledge and learning.</p> <p>Task 1 allows you to establish prior learning and highlight any misconceptions students may have. You can return to this activity at the end of the lesson if you want to see the progress students have made. Students are given opportunities to add new knowledge as the lesson progresses.</p> <p>Discussion offers opportunities to draw out students' evaluation skills and their ability to draw conclusions based on evidence of</p>

	<p>previous select committees.</p> <p>The main task can be used as an assessment piece for this scheme of work, providing an opportunity to gather an overview of students' understanding. In submitting their report to you to be 'published', students have taken part in a real world active citizenship project and been part of democratic life.</p>
<p>Do now / Starter / Entry Task</p> <p><i>(10 minutes)</i></p>	<p>What do you know about select committees?</p> <p><i>Slides 4 to 6</i></p> <p>Students should have researched select committees as a Takeaway Task for Lesson 5. Ask them to list what they already know about select committees. Identify any misconceptions and answer any questions they may have. If you have time, you could ask them to share their research into a specific inquiry.</p> <p>To supplement the students' understanding, watch clips from the video linked to on slide 5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <u>Learn Live – the work of select committees (from 1min 11 to 2min 42)</u> ● <u>Learn Live – the work of select committees (from 16min 49 to 18min 52)</u> <p>As they watch, ask students to improve their list of information about select committees using a different colour pen, so you can see the progress in their knowledge of the topic.</p> <p>Read the summary on slide 6 as a class, to reinforce the key purposes of select committees.</p>
<p>Task 1</p> <p><i>(10 minutes)</i></p>	<p>Evaluating the success of select committees</p> <p><i>Slide 7</i></p> <p>As a class, read the two case studies on slide 7. Ask the students to consider whether the select committee inquiries were successful:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Think (30 seconds on your own) ● Pair (2 minutes with a partner) ● Share (relay ideas as a class) <p>Prompt the students to help them identify what success looks like. Is it always an immediate result? Can success be achieved by raising awareness among the right people?</p> <p>Encourage the students to evaluate, rather than describe.</p>

<p>Task 2 <i>(35 minutes)</i></p>	<p>Running a select committee inquiry</p> <p><i>Slides 8 & 9</i></p> <p>In this activity, students gain experience of taking part in a simulated select committee inquiry.</p> <p>Tell students that they are part of a Science and Technology Select Committee. Consider organising the chairs and desks into a horseshoe shape to create your committee in the classroom.</p> <p>Explain to the students that you are the Chair of the committee and that your focus today is going to be an inquiry into digital privacy and security.</p> <p>Divide the class into three groups and give each a copy of one of the case studies provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Group 1 – Women’s safety on Reddit ● Group 2 – Facial recognition at King’s Cross ● Group 3 – UK Parliament TikTok risk <p>Ask them to read and discuss the case study in their group. They are going to be the experts in this area and will need to be able to answer questions and express views. Display the questions on slide 9 to guide the students’ discussion.</p> <p>Use the focused conversation method to draw information out of the students on the topic. You could use the following objective, reflective, interpretive and decisional questions as a starting point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What was your case study about? ● What concerns did the story raise about digital privacy and security? ● Who was at risk? ● What did you find most worrying about the case study? ● What is the potential impact of the digital security issue raised by your case study? ● How are the three case studies connected? ● Overall, how big an issue do you think digital privacy and security is? ● Can you summarise the main concerns? ● What three things are you going to recommend the government should do in relation to digital privacy and security?
<p>Task 3 <i>(20 minutes)</i></p>	<p>Writing a report</p> <p><i>Slide 10</i></p>

	<p>Give each student a copy of the report writing worksheet.</p> <p>Ask them to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fill in the three key recommendations that you agreed • Write a short report explaining why, as a result of the inquiry into digital safety and privacy, your select committee believes change is needed
<p>Task 4 <i>(5 minutes)</i></p>	<p>Getting involved!</p> <p><i>Slide 11</i></p> <p>Show students the video about how to get involved in select committees in real life. Explain that this is an important element of the democratic process. Do students think they may want to participate in a select committee inquiry in the future?</p>
<p>Plenary / Reflection <i>(20 minutes)</i></p>	<p>Should the UK be called a democracy?</p> <p><i>Slide 12</i></p> <p>Remind the students of the key question for this scheme of work:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Should the UK be called a democracy?</p> <p>Now they know so much more about the features of a democracy, how our democratic system works in the UK, free press and the use of digital technology, what do they think?</p> <p>Ask students to discuss with a partner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two pieces of evidence that support the UK being a democracy • Two pieces of evidence that they feel suggests our democracy is perhaps not as full as it could be. <p>Take feedback from the pairs and encourage others to comment if they have contrasting views.</p> <p>After everyone has had a chance to contribute, take a class vote. Overall, based on all they have learnt in this scheme of work, do the students agree that the UK should be called a documentary?</p> <p>To finish the lesson, take a look at how the UK rates in the democracy indices here: https://freedomhouse.org/countries/freedom-world/scores</p> <p>Do the experts agree with the class?</p>

Women's safety on Reddit

Women's private, explicit photos and videos are being traded by men on social media platform Reddit, BBC Panorama investigation finds.

A BBC Panorama investigation has found that women are facing threats from anonymous strangers after their personal details, intimate photos and videos were shared on the social media platform Reddit.

A BBC Panorama investigation has discovered several subreddits – online groups – with thousands of members dedicated to targeting women all over the UK where men trade, sell and share private sexual images without consent. These groups are still able to operate despite Reddit stating it has banned users from posting, or threatening to post intimate, or sexually explicit images of people without their consent.

The BBC have spoken to the women who have been left traumatised after finding themselves on these groups and have then faced threats and blackmail from a mob of anonymous strangers. Experts have told the programme there is a huge gap in the law which fails to sufficiently protect women being abused online and a loophole means that sharing non-consensual images is legal.

This trade in intimate images known as 'collector culture' is the latest evolution of a form of abuse of so-called revenge porn. On Reddit, BBC News reporter Monika Plaha who has been investigating the story for over a year, found hundreds of anonymous profiles selling links to huge collections of explicit images users had harvested

Reddit has built an audience of around 50 million daily users – with roughly four million in the UK – by letting people set up and run forums, known as subreddits. The investigation found that as well as in groups sharing non-consensual explicit images, men were posting misogynistic and vicious commentary about the women, including rape threats. Men on these forums also try to expose women's names, personal details and social media profiles.

Reddit has said that it has widened its definition of non-consensual sexual content prohibited on the site and removed just over 88,000 non-consensual sexual images last year. But several women have told the BBC that Reddit is not doing enough to help and that they had to wait up to eight months for their pictures to be removed and some were never removed at all.

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Women's safety on Reddit (continued)

Monika also wanted to establish what protection the law provided to hold people accountable for sharing non-consensual sexual images. Like tech companies, Monika finds that UK criminal law is struggling to consistently protect women from their private images being shared online. A legal loophole in this existing legislation requires proof that the person sharing photos is doing so without permission and to cause distress to the victim.

In the programme, Monika speaks to a woman who was contacted by a stranger and told explicit images of her were being shared on the internet and she went to the police. Despite having a written admission of guilt from her ex-partner that he was responsible, he stated "he didn't mean to hurt or embarrass" her. This phrasing meant that he was beyond the scope of the current law.

Clare McGlynn, a law professor at the University of Durham who's a legal expert on this kind of online abuse, said in the programme: "At the moment it's only a criminal offence to trade an image on one of these websites if you're doing it directly to cause distress to a victim. And we know that many men trading these images do not want the victims to even know so there's a huge gap in the law. The problem is the law only focuses on the kind of malicious ex-partner sharing an image, the kind of revenge porn and this only covers a small number of cases of intimate image abuse."

Reddit said that it takes the issue "extremely seriously" and added "We know we have more work to do to prevent, detect, and action this content even more quickly and accurately, and we are investing now in our teams, tools, and processes to achieve this goal. As part of the investigation, Panorama went undercover to unmask a Reddit user named 'Zippomad' who ran a subreddit targeting South Asian women. The subreddit had 20,000 members and had peddled the intimate images of at least 150 different women.

After Panorama exposed him, he deleted his group. He said in a statement to the programme that the group he ran intended to "appreciate South Asian women". He added that he is deeply embarrassed and ashamed of his actions.

He also said that he did not encourage users to trade or sell nudes and the forum was an opportunity for members to post personal content. He said claims on the forum that he possessed hundreds of images of one woman or personal information were false and made due to peer pressure or for status among other members.

Original article: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/mediacentre/2022/panorama-secret-world-of-trading-nudes>

Facial recognition at King's Cross

London's King's Cross uses facial recognition in security cameras.

Multiple cameras have been set up to observe visitors in the area and Canary Wharf may follow suit.

London's King's Cross is using facial recognition to track tens of thousands of people and Canary Wharf is considering following suit, across a total area that covers more than 160 acres of the city. The 67-acre King's Cross area, which has been recently redeveloped and houses several office buildings including Google's UK headquarters, Central Saint Martins college, schools and a range of retailers, has multiple cameras set up to observe visitors. Argent, the property developer for the King's Cross estate, said: "These cameras use a number of detection and tracking methods, including facial recognition, but also have sophisticated systems in place to protect the privacy of the general public." The person did not confirm how many cameras were in use or how long facial recognition had been active in the area. Meanwhile, Canary Wharf is in talks to install facial recognition across its 97-acre estate, which counts many major financial services companies, including Barclays, Credit Suisse and HSBC, as tenants. Canary Wharf Group, the company that owns both private offices and public spaces in the area, is actively speaking to facial recognition suppliers to pilot the technology in an area traversed by 140,000 people daily, as part of its security systems. "What's really worrying is for any worker who doesn't want to participate. This is essentially a geofenced experiment, so I don't see how anybody could opt out of it," said Stephanie Hare, an independent researcher of facial recognition technologies in the UK. "You can't opt out of walking around London, or working there. How do they defend it when this technology is the subject of legal action and MPs are calling for a moratorium on it?"

Under current general data protection laws, collecting sensitive personal data including faces requires explicit consent from the people being observed. If the technology were to be adopted in Canary Wharf, it would not operate continuously on pedestrians and office workers, but be limited to specific purposes or threats, according to sources close to the company.

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Facial recognition at King's Cross (continued)

Canary Wharf currently operates at least 1,750 CCTV cameras, as well as an automatic licence plate recognition system to track vehicles in the area, according to Genetec, a Canadian company that supplies the district with its security software. The systems then automatically notify police of any hits from a vehicle watchlist. As facial recognition technology has become consumerised in recent years, via companies such as Apple and Facebook, it has been adopted enthusiastically in the UK, where at least two police forces including London's Metropolitan Police and South Wales Police have trialled facial recognition systems on innocent citizens.

Convenience stores such as Budgens and supermarkets – including Tesco, Sainsbury's and Marks and Spencer – all have cameras that are already, or soon will be, capable of facial recognition, used for applications ranging from crime prevention to estimating the age of those buying alcohol or cigarettes. London already has an estimated 420,000 CCTV cameras operating in and around the city, although many were installed as analogue video systems that are low-quality and difficult to scale.

Increasingly, these are being upgraded to “internet protocol” cameras that are connected to the internet, which have far better image resolution and can be accessed remotely. These cameras can also be upgraded to include facial recognition software. “The private sector uses of facial recognition need a lot of attention because there is less regulation and governance here,” said Pete Fussey, a criminologist at the University of Essex who specialises in digital surveillance. “The privatisation of public spaces in London raises interesting legal questions [for surveillance].” The Information Commissioner's Office, which is the UK regulator for data protection, said it was looking into the use of facial recognition technology by police and private companies. “Since new data protection laws came into effect on 25 May 2018, there are extra protections for people. These require organisations to assess and reduce the privacy risks of using new and intrusive surveillance technologies like automatic facial recognition,” said a spokesperson. “Organisations wishing to automatically capture and use images of individuals going about their business in public spaces need to provide clear evidence to demonstrate it is strictly necessary and proportionate for the circumstances and that there is a legal basis for that use.”

Original article: <https://www.ft.com/content/8cbcb3ae-babd-11e9-8a88-aa6628ac896c>

UK Parliament TikTok risk

UK Parliament closes TikTok account after China data warning.

The UK Parliament has closed down its TikTok account after MPs raised concerns about the risk of data being passed to the Chinese government.

The account has been locked, and content deleted, days after its launch. Senior MPs and peers had called for the account to be removed until TikTok gave "credible assurances" no data could be handed to China.

TikTok is owned by Chinese company ByteDance, which has denied it was controlled by the Chinese government. Relations between London and Beijing have been fraught in recent years, with tensions heightened by China's sanctioning of several MPs last year. "Based on member feedback, we are closing the pilot UK Parliament TikTok account earlier than we had planned," a UK Parliament spokesman said. "The account was a pilot initiative while we tested the platform as a way of reaching younger audiences with relevant content about Parliament."

A TikTok spokeswoman told the BBC it was "disappointing" that Parliament would not be able to connect with users of the app in the UK. Offering to reassure the MPs who raised concerns, the spokeswoman said TikTok would be willing to "clarify any inaccuracies about our platform".

Security concerns

Peers and MPs – including former Conservative leader Sir Iain Duncan Smith and recent Tory leadership contender Tom Tugendhat – flagged those concerns in a letter to the speakers of both Houses of Parliament. In the letter, the peers and MPs, who have been sanctioned by the Chinese government for speaking out about human rights abuses in the country, said they were "surprised and disappointed" by Parliament's decision to set up the account. The letter said the data security risks associated with the app were "considerable".

TikTok executives were "unable to reassure MPs that the company could prevent data transfer to ByteDance, should the parent company make a request for it", the letter said. It added: "The prospect of Xi Jinping's government having access to personal data on our children's phones ought to be a cause for major concern."

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UK Parliament TikTok risk (continued)

The BBC understands TikTok has written to all the peers and MPs who signed the letter, offering to meet them and explain their data protection processes. Last month Theo Bertram, TikTok's vice president for government relations and public policy in Europe, wrote to MP Darren Jones, the chairman of the Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee.

In a letter Mr Bertram said "we have never been asked to provide TikTok user data to the Chinese government, nor would we if asked". Nus Ghani, one of the Tory MPs who expressed concerns about TikTok, welcomed the shut-down of Parliament's account on the app.

In a tweet, she thanked the speakers for "standing up for our values and protecting our data", adding "common sense prevails".

Her tweet included a letter from the speakers, who said they "were not consulted on the plans for this pilot project."

Original article: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-62410234>

Science and Technology Committee

Commons Select Committee

Report to government on the digital safety and privacy inquiry

Our three recommendations:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Why do we believe change is needed?

Signed:

Name: