



The Rule of Law



Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, I will understand:

- What parliament, the government and the justice system do.
- What the rule of law means.
- How laws are made.
- How I can take part in our democracy.



The rule of law





What are laws?

Laws are rules that are made by people in power to order the way society behaves.





In the UK, power is split between three groups:

Parliament



Makes and changes laws

The Government



Puts laws into practice and makes policy

The Justice System



Upholds the law



The rule of law

The rule of law means that the Government cannot do whatever it likes.

For example:

The Government cannot send people to prison.



The Government cannot take money from the people to make themselves rich.





Why do we need laws?

- To keep us safe.
- To make sure things are fair.
- To limit the power of the Government.





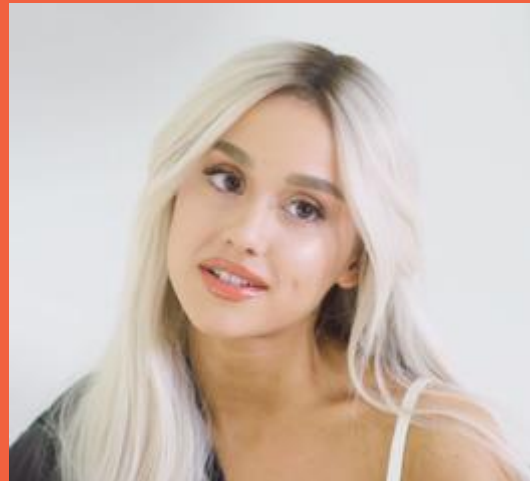
Everyone has to obey the law

Even...

The Prime Minister



Celebrities



The police





The police

An organised force that maintains order, preventing and detecting crimes and enforcing laws.





A judge

A person who oversees a court of law and decides on sentencing.





A lawyer

Someone who is qualified to advise on legal matters and represent people in court.





Parliament

A group of elected and appointed people who make and change laws in the House of Commons and the House of Lords.





The Queen

The Head of State. This person gives royal assent to any new laws.





In an ideal world

Your challenge is to create a law that you think would improve the lives of children in the UK.

First decide which area you will focus on.

For example:

- Environment
- Health
- Education
- Safety (in our communities and/or online)





In an ideal world

Think about the type of change you want to see. Do you want to:

Ban certain behaviour

For example, smoking is banned in most public spaces.

Set age restrictions

For example, it is against the law to sell cigarettes to a person who is under 18 years old.

Enforce behaviours

For example, a person must wear a seatbelt when in a car.





The Plenary

Look back at what we wrote down at the start of the lesson about the rule of law.

- **Did we write anything that we now know isn't true?**
- **Is there any new information we can add?**

