

Stages of Law activity

Key Stage 4
What is Law

Instructions

Time- 2 hours or a short project

For students to follow and understand how many steps there are to pass a bill as a law.

Role play activity,

A student wants to create a new rule at school. Other students in the group will then represent the different stages that the bill has to go through as if they were Parliament.



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House of Commons

First reading – introduce the rule to the rest of the group



Second reading – explain the rule and answer questions



Committee stage – rest of the group can examine the proposal



Report stage – suggested changes to the rule can be made



Third Reading – students decide if they want the rule to progress



House of Lords

First reading – the new rule/ bill is introduced to the teachers



Second reading – teachers discuss and debate the proposed rule



Committee Stage – all teachers can examine and contribute to any amendments



Report Stage – another chance to make amendments



Third reading – Last chance for further discussion





Royal assent

Once both the students and teachers have agreed it will then be sent to the Monarch, or in this case, the head teacher to examine if it can become a new rule.

This is the process that parliament must follow, in order for an introduced bill to become law. Acting this out as a process will help students to see that it is a lengthy process and should be a democratic one.

Use teachers notes or link to <http://www.explore.parliament.uk/cms/DocumentUploads/Discover%20Parliament.pdf>