



New Hall School

PRESS RELEASE

New Hall hosts local politicians for Question Time-style debate

On Thursday 28 February, the Politics Department at New Hall School held a Question Time-style debate with local politicians on the topic, 'Brexit: what next for the UK?'. The event stimulated fantastic discussion with all main political parties represented, enabling a full range of viewpoints to be presented. The audience of students and staff members was greatly engaged with the debate and asked some excellent questions, on topics including: 'should the voting age have been lowered to 16, as Brexit will affect the younger generations the most?', 'have we been let down by the politicians who have used Brexit to further their own agendas?' and 'what effect will Brexit have on the opportunities for young people learning European languages?'.

The panel included Paul Jeater (representing the Green Party), Stuart Agnew MEP (UKIP), Marie Goldman (Liberal Democrats), Former Councillor Rodney Bass OBE (Conservatives), and Penny Richards (Labour), as well as New Hall's Deputy Principal, Mr Andrew Fardell, and Sixth Form students, Jonjo McMahon, Rebecca Jeffrey and Theo Taylor. The debate was chaired by New Hall's Head of Politics, Mr Andy Bowman. The school is very grateful to the politicians for giving up their time to inspire students to engage with politics, and was also privileged to host BBC Essex's Charlotte Rose at the event.

Alongside a successful academic programme, New Hall School provides outstanding facilities and training for sports, music and performing arts. The boarding and day school for students aged 3-18 has a Catholic foundation and ethos, which welcomes those of all backgrounds. The strong pastoral care structure at the school supports students in their endeavours, allowing them to achieve success in a wide variety of fields.



Photo: The event stimulated fantastic discussion with all main political parties represented, enabling a full range of viewpoints to be presented



Photo: Students from Years 7 to 13 were deeply engaged with the debate and posed excellent questions to the panel



Photo: (Left to Right): Mr Andy Bowman (Head of Politics), Mrs Katherine Jeffrey (Principal), Rodney Bass (Conservatives), Rebecca Jeffrey (Sixth Form student), Cllr John Aldridge (School Governor), Theo Taylor (Sixth Form student), Mr Andrew Fardell (Deputy Principal), Jonjo McMahon (Sixth Form student), Paul Jeater (Green Party), Marie Goldman (Liberal Democrats) and Penny Richards (Labour).