

Law

Intent

The Law department runs A Level Law at Key Stage 5. The curriculum design is underpinned by the OCR A Level Law specification. The curriculum is intended to introduce students to five areas of study: Public Law, Criminal Law, Tort Law, Contract Law and Concepts of Law. Schemes of work are detailed, with engaging resources. A Level Law has considerable content and we create detailed resource packs for students rather than use textbooks. We aim to create opportunities for all learners, irrespective of their starting points, to make at least good progress in the subject of Law. The curriculum has been designed to provide students with the opportunity to enhance their own understanding of key areas of study through a range of T&L strategies. Schemes of work are designed to prepare students for their studies in Higher Education. Many of our Key Stage 5 Law students are seeking a career in Law. Four out of the five main areas of study are part of the qualifying LLB Law degree which helps our students have a sound basis for studying Law at university.

Implementation

At Key Stage 5, students are allocated nine hours of teaching time a fortnight in Year 12 and eight hours a fortnight in Year 13. Students are given the opportunity to engage with a highly challenging course through the carefully planned and differentiated activities. Legal debates are encouraged, particularly in the Concepts of Law module of the course where this is highly relevant. Formative assessment is used by teachers to gain a good understanding of how students are progressing and to provide feedback for students to improve in their learning. At the end of each unit of work summative assessment is used, where students complete essay style questions linked to the exam. Schemes of work are scheduled to ensure ample revision time for the two years of study at the end of the course. By the end of Key Stage 5, students have a mature knowledge and understanding of the five main areas of study and a comprehensive understanding of the elements of a qualifying LLB Law degree. This ensures that pupils are well prepared for further legal study as well as other disciplines at university.

Impact

The Law department is extremely proud of our students' progress and attainment in this subject. The table below outlines the progress of the last 3 cohorts of Law students:

Year	VA
2018-19	0
2017-18	0.61
2016-17	0

Progress is routinely analysed at several points during the year following results from internal exams and home learning assessments. Formal internal exams take place three times a year and help to inform predicted grades. Individualised intervention programmes are used to support students not making expected progress. A full results analysis is carried out after all external exams and used to inform the departmental improvement plan. Law complements the rest of the A Level curriculum well and there is a large overlap with subjects such as RF, History, Sociology and English. Many of the A Level Law students choose to take the subject at degree level.

Attributes of Law students at the end of the A level course:

- An open and questioning approach to ideas, demonstrating curiosity, independence of thought and the ability to appreciate a range of perspectives on legal problems
- An appreciation of the underlying concepts of law and the principles behind fundamental legal rules
- The ability to synthesise large amounts of information and build a legal argument
- The ability to creatively solve problems using a range of different legal rules deriving from both statutes and common law
- An appreciation of the ethical implications of the law
- The critical thinking ability to actively pursue a future career in law.