



## Subject Philosophy

The study of Law empowers as well as informs. Understanding the rules and institutions that regulate our society gives us a better awareness of our individual rights and responsibilities. We are better equipped to participate in society, to scrutinise political arguments and to challenge unfairness. As an academic subject Law is always relevant to everyday life and the big issues of our day. Although A-level Law is not required for the study of Law at university, it provides a brilliant foundation for such study and allows students to gauge if this is the degree for them. Apart from its obvious relevance to legal careers, A-level Law is also very helpful for a wider range of other career paths such as policing, the armed forces, social services, and management.

## Intent

We follow the AQA A-level Law syllabus which provides a very good grounding in the English Legal System and in three main types of law: Criminal, Tort, and Contract or Human Rights. Students learn about the nature of law and the role of various legal institutions (non-substantive law). When studying criminal law, tort law and contract or human rights law (substantive law) they learn how to apply the law to problem situations in a structured way, to reach a reasoned conclusion. Skills developed include: analytical ability, decision making, critical thinking, and problem-solving.

## Design

The course is 100% exam based. There are three papers, each worth 100 marks. Question types vary from multiple choice, to short answer and extended response. Paper 1 covers the nature of law, aspects of the English legal system, and criminal law. Paper 2 covers the nature of law, aspects of the English legal system, and tort law. Paper 3 covers the nature of law, aspects of the English legal system, and contract or human rights law. On each paper 25% of marks are for non-substantive law; 75% for substantive law.

## Delivery

Lessons typically commence with self-assessed knowledge retrieval quizzes to consolidate previous learning and link to new lesson topics. Each topic is clearly explained, often with the help of a power point, and students are given handouts to fill in as the new content is being delivered so they have a complete set of notes from which to revise. Video clips and discussion are used where appropriate to enhance learning. Typically, knowledge is then applied through activities or problem questions. There is a weekly written homework based on what has been studied that week and students keep case lists on each topic (again to facilitate revision).