

Subject: Law	Awarding Body: OCR
Head of Dept: Mrs Green	Teacher: Mrs Campbell

Preferred entry requirements: GCSE Maths at Grade 4 or above. GCSE English Literature and Language at Grade 5 or above.

Students of Law should have an interest in legal issues, a readiness to think critically about topics and a willingness to appreciate a range of arguments in any given debate.

Specification Content

A level			
1	The legal system and criminal law 2 hour paper 33.3% of total A level	3	The nature of law Human rights law or The law of contract 2 hour paper 33.3% of total A level
2	Law making and the law of tort. 2 hour paper 33.3% of total A level		
Will there be any coursework? No			

Structure of the course:

'The legal system' covers all aspects of the civil courts and other forms of dispute resolution, criminal courts and lay people, legal personnel and access to justice. Under 'criminal law', you will study the general elements of criminal liability, fatal and non-fatal offences, offences against property, mental capacity defences and general defences and preliminary offences. The second paper will include Parliamentary law making, including delegated legislation, statutory interpretation precedent, law reform and EU law. The law of tort includes negligence, occupier's liability, land, vicarious liability, defences and remedies. The third paper concerns the nature of law and morality, justice and society. A choice can be made to study the law of contract or human rights law and at Highclare we study Contract Law

Method:

As well as the traditional methods of teaching within the classroom through discussion, using prescribed textbooks specific to the course, taking notes, giving small informal presentations etc students are encouraged to carry out their own research from textbooks in the school library. A number of appropriate websites may also be accessed to find the most up to date material. Students will be given topic workbooks to support their learning both in and out of the classroom.

It is important that students develop awareness of topical issues by listening to the news and reading newspapers. The success in this subject largely depends on developing independent learning and becoming a critical thinker and as such the study of law is a useful addition to A Level study. Universities (including Russell Group) are happy to accept A Level Law as part of an academic study programme.

Law is ever changing and what is learnt in the classroom can be applied to everyday life. Opportunities for enrichment not only include topical discussions but also trips to the courts and participation in MOCK trial competitions.

Strengths/Skills developed through studying this subject:

Students develop knowledge and understanding of the structure, personnel and function of a legal system. This enhances an awareness of political and constitutional issues both in England and Europe. They will also become increasingly aware of the changing nature of law in society and should soon be taking part in topical discussions. Students on this course also tend to embrace the need to form balanced arguments and make reasoned judgements. The techniques of logical thinking and the skills necessary to analyse and solve problems should help with both communication and presentation skills.

What students do with this qualification:

Some students use this qualification to study Law at degree level and have found it invaluable as it forms an excellent basis in terms of topics covered and skills developed. However, students need not fear that their motive for studying A level Law must lead them into the profession. Indeed, A level Law is an excellent foundation for a variety of courses and careers. Students may consider pursuing careers in business/finance, social sciences, politics, civil service, management or teaching to name but a few.