

Law

Intent:

Our aim is that students will be able to understand and effectively explain the role of law within society, the process of law-making, components and mechanisms of the legal system, alongside the fundamentals of criminal, civil, and human rights law within the UK. Through their studies, students will develop their analytical, evaluative, and problem-solving skills. Students will also consider the context of the law that they study to instil a wider appreciation of British values, including democracy, the rule of law, equality, and justice.

Implementation:

The department ensures that the study of law is purposeful, both in light of the nature of external examination and the role that the subject plays in helping to shape students as positive members of the wider community, and relevant to students in terms of their academic development and engagement with the wider world. This is achieved through a sufficiently broad curriculum which includes introductions to a range of areas in law and also provides for discussion and debate surrounding contemporary issues that can be related to the course.

Knowledge and skills are vital for students to achieve well in the subject and so an emphasis is placed on both within law lessons. The curriculum is taught in a way that allows students to effectively develop their knowledge of the law and legal system, whilst also developing their analytical, evaluative, and writing skills that are essential within the subject and beyond.

Students' understanding of the legal system, law-making processes, criminal law, tort law, and human rights law is developed throughout the course which enables students to better make sense of a system that they are a part of but is often in the background. A synoptic element is also included within the curriculum and considers the relationship between law and morality, justice, and society. This enables students to both apply their newfound knowledge and to develop their analytical and debating skills.

Students of law must be resilient learners; as a subject not studied at prior key stages, it is important that students appreciate that it is acceptable that they will make mistakes. As such, it is evident in each law lesson that students are encouraged to 'have a go' without fear of failure. In addition, several areas of the curriculum studied by students inevitably invoke debate; by encouraging fair and appropriate debate within lessons this helps students to appreciate the intricacies of their own arguments and the value of alternative viewpoints.

Impact:

Whilst largely governed by the demands of external examination, we have nonetheless designed our curriculum to ensure that all students have the opportunity to succeed in developing their legal knowledge and transferable skills including analysis and evaluation. We expect that through this process, all students will leave the department with the necessary skills and knowledge to help prepare them for further study across a range of academic disciplines, a career within the legal system, or wider employment. We also believe that students gain a greater understanding of the ways in which the law shapes their

lives, and the lives of those around them, as a consequence of study within the department. Studying law helps to equip students with greater resilience and communication skills that will benefit them beyond their school life.

Possible careers and opportunities: the analytical, discussion and presentation skills developed in Law can be used for a variety of careers beyond just that of a barrister or solicitor, such as Civil service, Journalism, Politics, Teaching and academia and Advocacy and campaigning.

Facilities: 2 classrooms in the Tower Block within the wider History Department.

Support: lunch-time support and targeted intervention is available.