

Preparing for Transition from Key Stage 4 to Key Stage 5

Subject

Law: The English legal System and Criminal Law.

Qualification

BTEC Applied Law

Recommended Reading materials

- *There are no recommended textbooks for the course but any A Level Law textbook would give you a head start on some of the key topics and terminology.*

Recommended websites

- Prospects.ac.uk has information about the roles of legal personnel.
- There are also lots of videos on YouTube about how laws are made and on the work of the various courts.
- The EU website contains information on what the European union is and what it does.
- The Pearson website has lots of information about the course too.

Preparation tasks

- You could use the websites mentioned above and start to research some of the topics. Look in particular at the differences between criminal law and civil law.

Recommended research

- Internet research on what Parliament is and how it makes laws.
- You can also see laws that are currently being made by Parliament.
- You could research the roles of solicitors and barristers if you are thinking of this as a career path.

Recommended trips or visits this summer

If you are 16 or over you can visit your local Magistrates or Crown court to observe cases. You do not need to book this because most criminal cases are open to the public. This could give you a valuable insight into what happens in a real-life trial and the role of various legal professionals.

Tasks to complete

- Keep an eye on the news – law students should have some knowledge of current affairs. Look out for any interesting cases, especially about criminal law.
- Get yourself a file for notes as well as a USB stick to save your assignments.
- Be ready to ask questions and develop your analytical and problem-solving skills – you'll find the course challenging but very rewarding!