



Curriculum Intent: Criminology

Subject vision

Our aim is to introduce students to the Criminal Justice System, the reasons as to why people turn to crime and the way in which we can control this as a society. The Criminology course has elements of the other Social Sciences and highly complements the study of Sociology, Law and Psychology. Criminology also flows from Religious Education, which we view as our 'gateway' subject.

We deliver our curriculum intent on a subject level by:

KS3 – touching on the concepts of punishment through discussions of the afterlife (heaven, hell, reincarnation)

KS4 – the GCSE RE course has a module entitled Crime & Punishment. This looks at theories of punishment which links directly to the KS5 course.

KS5 – engaging with the WJEC Awarding Body course reinforces links with other Social Science subjects, and helps students encounter all types of roles found in the Criminal Justice System

Enrichment

We have used external speakers where possible including solicitors, police officers and youth workers. Students are encouraged to undertake their own research in areas of criminality that interest them.

In *Criminology*, students '**Achieve success**' by:

Encouraging high aspiration and a love of learning	The course introduces students to every aspect of the Criminal Justice system, giving them exposure to a wide range of possible careers. The course links to a wide range of careers and due to its interesting nature, students are inspired to research elements beyond the classroom.
Maximising progress and potential	Students have access to regular support sessions at break and lunchtimes. Year 12 units can be retaken in Year 13 to enable students to enhance their grade even further. Equal weighting of each year helps to alleviate pressure of students if successful in Year 12. Controlled assessment element means fewer exams which makes the course very popular.
Providing rewarding learning experiences	Lessons cater to a variety of learning styles. The subject content is so broad that students have an element of freedom to research crimes that will interest them. This keeps motivation levels high amongst the students.

Offering diverse opportunities	The course has elements of independent study where students can follow their own interests.
Recognising and celebrating all achievement	We cater for students across the whole spectrum of academic ability. Many students exceed their target grades. Each year students choose to take up Criminology at University or courses that are directly linked.

In *Criminology* students '**Value Others**' by:

Contributing to a safe school environment	By encouraging reflection or controlling our own behaviour and being understanding of those who may struggle to do this may help deescalate situations or encourage others to do so.
Showing tolerance, respect and fairness	Discussions around criminal behaviour can be personal to students. As such empathy for why some people might resort to crime is integral to the course. Examining biological, psychological and sociological reasons helps promote the idea of treating everyone as an individual.
Listening to and respecting others' views	Criminology has a debate and discussion element in every lesson. As such ground rules are established back in KS3 as to how to respond and behaviour appropriately during these discussions.
Appreciating and embracing diversity	Understanding that there are a variety of reasons why people might commit crimes, regardless of background and circumstances, will help students to treat people as individuals and be more accepting of those different from themselves.
Being an active member of our school and local community	Encouraging empathy and understanding of people and their situations. Talking about charities that help those at risk of committing crimes or those being released from prison may inspire students to get involved in other voluntary organisations.
Co-operating with others	Through responding appropriately during discussions.