



ST CHRISTOPHER'S SIXTH FORM

# LAW

## BRIDGING UNIT





# Law

## Introduction

Welcome to St Christopher's A Level Law. A level law helps you understand how the English legal system works, how laws are made, interpreted and enforced.

Together we will explore:

- The nature of law and the English legal system
- Criminal Law
- Tort Law
- Law of Contract



Our A-Level Law course follows the AQA specification which can be found here: [AQA | Law | A-Level | A-level Law](https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/law/a-level/law-7162/specification)

Or you can type in this link: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/law/a-level/law-7162/specification>

## Assessment

The course is assessed entirely through examination. You will sit three examinations at the end of your second year of study:

<b>Paper 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The nature of law and the English Legal System</li><li>• Criminal Law</li></ul>	2-hour exam 100 marks 33% of A level	A combination of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions
<b>Paper 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The nature of law and the English Legal System</li><li>• Tort</li></ul>	2-hour exam 100 marks 33% of A level	A combination of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions
<b>Paper 3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The nature of law and the English Legal System</li><li>• Law of Contract</li></ul>	2-hour exam 100 marks 33% of A level	A combination of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions

## What you will need:



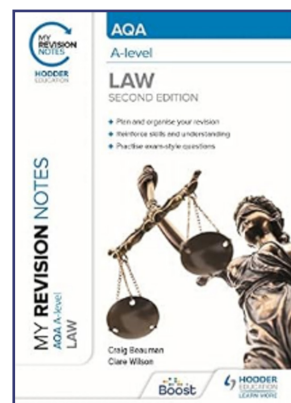
- **A4 lined holepunched paper** (smaller notebooks, wirebound notebooks or random scrappy bits of paper will not be acceptable)
- **Ringbound file** with a **set of dividers**.

Organisation is key for A level Law. As well as making notes during lessons we undertake lots of different kinds of activities and also provide you with a number of handouts. **These must be kept in an organised and logical manner, hence the need for a file rather than notepad or exercise book.**

## Text books

Law textbooks are quite expensive and they can go out of date really quickly. You will be given handouts and resources which will have all the key information you require to pass the course with flying colours, but if you would like to supplement these resources we would recommend:

Hodder Education "My Revision Notes; AQA A-level Law" by Claire Wilson and Craig Beaumont



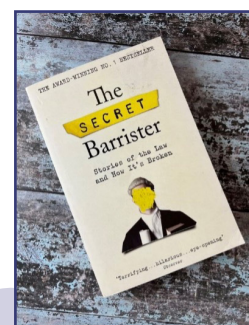
We are going to enjoy studying this course together from September and there is no need for you to start on the actual work before then. However, you will be interested in and would benefit from looking at the background to Law. This is around us in our everyday lives and affects how we behave and what happens to us.

## Preparation

Here are some suggestions for interesting ways to prepare you for A Level Law:



- Read Law Reports in The Times/ The Guardian/ The Telegraph. These are usually interesting accounts of cases where people or companies have appealed against an earlier court ruling. There are two sides to each case, as always, but here they are usually both strong arguments and the decision could go either way. It is interesting to hear both sides and to read why the judges have decided which side to support. Often, the interpretations they make form the basis of future similar cases - these can all be found online.
- If you are a keen reader and want a real-world glimpse into the legal system, 'The Secret Barrister' is a brilliant read. Written by a criminal barrister who writes anonymously, the book lifts the lid on what really happens in court rooms and exposes the challenges, pressures and injustices faced by both legal professionals and ordinary people. It's informative, eye-opening and often quite funny – ideal for anyone who wants to go beyond text books and understand how law works in practice.



- For those who prefer podcasts, you can listen to The Law Show on BBC radio 4. Each week two or three interesting events in the legal world from that week are explored. This will help you to realise how varied the issues of Law can be.
- You can also research online or in local papers reports of any crime in your area and make a note of the type of crimes that seem to reoccur the most.

Access the following:

- [www.counselmagazine.co.uk](http://www.counselmagazine.co.uk)
- [www.guardian.co.uk/law](http://www.guardian.co.uk/law)
- [www.babybarista.com](http://www.babybarista.com)
- [www.oldbaileyonline.org](http://www.oldbaileyonline.org)

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## Activities

**Analyse three or four of the following questions:**

1. Do CCTV cameras prevent crime or infringe civil liberties?
2. It takes six weeks for both sides to prepare for a criminal trial. Should a person accused of serious assault be imprisoned for those six weeks even if he pleads Not Guilty?
3. Should our judges and Barristers wear wigs and gowns in the courtroom?
4. Are jury trials really the best way to achieve justice for someone accused of a crime?
5. What duty of care do you owe to someone who trespasses onto your land?
6. Are the current rules of self-defence fair and workable in practice?
7. How do you form a legally binding contract?
8. If you are hurt or harmed through no fault of your own how should the courts work out the damages which you are owed?

The most important message however is that you use the summer to rest, recover and recuperate, ready to arrive in September interested, curious with an appetite for hard work.

Take care, enjoy your summer, we look forward to seeing you in September,

**Miss Smith and Miss Broderick**









**“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord,  
“plans to prosper you and not to harm you,  
plans to give you hope and a future.”**

Jeremiah 29:11

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