

Year 11-12 Transition Pack:

OCR A Level

Law



**Introduction**

It is likely that you will not have studied law before but there is no need to worry, the A Level Law course is designed to remove any feelings of uncertainty and confusion that may arise from taking a subject which is new to you.

It is a very interesting subject and by studying law you will have a number of opportunities to further develop essential key skills. The course encourages you to develop the skills necessary to analyse and solve problems by applying rules and to develop the ability to communicate arguments and conclusions clearly and succinctly.

**How can I use my A Level Law in the future?**

**University**

Many students who study law at A-Level go on to study Law at university. Even if you do not wish to study Law at university, Law is a well-respected academic qualification and studying it will provide you with a number of skills which universities are looking for. It complements other areas such as English, History, Politics, Social Science and Business-related courses.

**Employment**

Apart from the obvious careers of solicitor or barrister, law students are well liked by industry, commerce and local government and will be found working in areas such as retail management, publishing, journalism, the police force, social services and teaching. Studying Law will provide you with valuable skills, such as communication skills, analytical skills and problem- solving skills, which employers are looking for.

If you have any additional questions please contact the Head of Law, Mrs Flora via email: S.Flora@georgesalter.com

**Course Overview**

At the end of the second year, you will sit three examinations – **there is no course work for this subject.**

The examinations are of all equal weighting and you must take all three:

Unit One: The Legal System and Criminal Law (2 Hours)

This exam will be taken in Summer 2023

Unit Two: Law Making and the Law of Tort (2 Hours)

This exam will be taken in Summer 2023

Unit Three: Further Law (2 Hours)

This exam will be taken in Summer 2023

**Articles to Read**

**Textbooks**

Martin, J., & Price, N. (2017). OCR AS/ A Level Law 1. London: Hodder Education.

Martin, J., & Price, N. (2017). OCR A Level Law 2 . London : Hodder Education .

**Websites**

<https://www.tutor2u.net/law> - some useful activities for you to help with your revision.

<http://e-lawresources.co.uk/cases/Case-summaries.php> - useful website to read case summaries.

Law Summer Project

**DUE FIRST LESSON IN SEPTEMBER**

There is no legal definition of murder, which means that at the time when it became an offence, there was no law to state what is considered as murder.

The courts rely on a seventeenth-century judge, Lord Coke who stated:

*“Murder is the unlawful killing of a reasonable person in being and under the King’s (or Queen’s) Peace with malice aforethought, express or implied”.*

The law states that a ‘foetus’ which is an unborn child, is not considered to be a reasonable person (a human being whom must be a living person being killed).

* The foetus is still in the womb and therefore, not considered a ‘reasonable person in being.
* The foetus is not considered to be alive.

Therefore, a person cannot be charged with murder in respect of the killing of a foetus, as a child must have an ‘existence independent of the mother for it to be considered a human being. This means that it must have been expelled from her body and have an independent existence.

In the case of **Attorney-General’s Reference (No. 3 of 1994) (1997)** it was decided that it was not possible for a defendant to be charged with murder for killing foetus.

**The defendant had stabbed his pregnant girlfriend. The baby was born premature and died 121 days later. The defendant was not charged with murder but instead convicted of manslaughter.**

**Your Task**

Write a persuasive essay (approximately 1000 words) expressing your opinions on this rule.

Do you think it is right? What supports your view?

Discuss any further points others may have. Counter-balance your argument and suggest points that are opposite to yours.

Conclude your argument.