

CRIMINOLOGY KEY STAGE 5 CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

By the end of Key Stage 5, students should:

Know	<i>Students will have a clear understanding of the nature of crime and criminal behaviour, including different types of crime, reasons why crimes occur, and why some crimes remain unreported. They will develop knowledge of key criminological theories and how these theories explain criminal behaviour, drawing upon concepts from Psychology, Sociology and Law. Learners will also understand how crime is perceived within society, the role of the Criminal Justice System, and how Criminology relates to further study and careers within areas such as policing, probation, courts, and offender management.</i>
Do	<i>Students will be able to apply criminological knowledge to real-life and vocational contexts through the analysis of authentic case studies linked to the Criminal Justice System. They will develop transferable skills including independent learning, problem-solving, project-based research, collaboration, and professional communication. Learners will be able to evaluate evidence, present informed arguments, and work effectively alongside others, reflecting the skills required in higher education and professional criminal justice environments.</i>
Appreciate	<i>Students will develop an appreciation of the complexity of crime and the wide-ranging impacts it has on individuals, communities, employers and society as a whole. They will gain insight into how perceptions of crime are shaped by social, cultural and psychological factors, and how criminological understanding informs responses to crime and justice. Learners will also appreciate the relevance of criminology to further academic study and careers, recognising its value as a foundation for degrees in Criminology, Law, Psychology and Sociology, as well as for employment within the criminal justice sector.</i>

Curriculum coverage

	Topic	Sub topic	Coverage	
Year 12	Changing Awareness of Crime	<i>Understand how Crime Reporting affects the public perception of criminality</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is a crime? • Why might crimes go unreported? • Different types of crime. 	
		<i>Understand how campaigns are used to elicit change</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The consequences of unreported crime. • Methods of collecting crime data and how this data is used. • How crime is represented in the media and how this shapes perception of crime. 	
		<i>Plan campaigns for change relating to crime</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe and assess the effectiveness of campaigns for change in relation to crime. • Develop a campaign for change and justify this campaign. 	
	Criminological Theory	<i>Understand social constructions of criminality</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The social construction of criminality- time, place and culture. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use case studies to show the social construction of criminality.
		<i>Know theories of criminality</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research ideas of deviance and the link with criminality. • Compare criminal and deviant behaviour. • Understand classical and modern theories of criminality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand and assess biological theories of criminality. • Understand and assess individualistic (psychological) theories of criminality. • Understand and assess sociological theories of criminality.
		<i>Understand causes of criminality</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply theories of crime to explain criminal situations. 	
		<i>Understand causes of policy change</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain how theories of crime have shaped policy development. • Explain how social change has shaped policy development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain how campaigns have shaped policy development. • Explain theories in shaping policy development.

Curriculum coverage continued

	Topic	Sub topic	Coverage
Year 13	From Crime Scene to Court Room	<i>Understand the process of criminal investigations</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectiveness of the roles of personnel involved in criminal investigations. Usefulness of investigative techniques in criminal investigations. How evidence is processed. The rights of individuals in criminal investigations.
		<i>Understand the process for prosecution of suspects</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The requirements of the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) for prosecuting suspects. The trial process. Rules in relation to the use of evidence in criminal cases. The use of laypeople in criminal cases.
		<i>Review criminal cases</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key influences affecting the outcomes of criminal cases. Examine information for validity. Draw conclusions from information.
	Crime and Punishment	<i>Understand the criminal justice system in England and Wales</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the processes used for law making. Describe the organisation of the criminal justice system.
		<i>Understand the role of punishment in a criminal justice system</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe models of criminal justice. Discuss the aims of punishment. Assess the extent to which forms of punishment meet their aims.
		<i>Understand the measures used in social control</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain forms of social control. Describe the contribution of agencies to achieving social control. Evaluate the effectiveness of agencies in achieving social control. Explain the role of agencies in social control. Examine the limitations of agencies in achieving social control.
		<i>Exam preparation- revision and practice.</i>	

Wider Key Stage 5 Curriculum

Homework Expectations: Students will need to use study periods and homework time to complete Controlled Assessment preparation. Homework assignments linked to Unit 2 and 4 will also be set weekly via Satchel.

Trips: Various visitors from the Criminal Justice Sector are invited into lessons throughout the course, including police officers and prison officers. Crime Scene to Courtroom workshops take place and are run by external visitors with experience in the Police Force. Prison Visits are arranged and additional PD sessions are held which provide students with the opportunity to gain a greater depth of knowledge and understanding about related curriculum topics and current affairs.