



Blue Coat Church of England Academy

Year: 12+13

Subject: BTEC L3 Applied Law

Overview

Overview:

The BTEC Level 3 in Applied Law is a vocational qualification that provides learners with an in-depth understanding of the legal system in England and Wales. Designed for students interested in a career in law, criminology, public services, or business, this course combines theoretical legal principles with real-life application.

It offers an engaging and practical approach to learning about the legal process, rights and responsibilities, criminal law, and aspects of civil law. The course is ideal for those planning to progress to university, higher apprenticeships, or employment in the legal or public sectors.

Units Covered:

Unit 1: Dispute Solving in Civil Law

This unit introduces the civil legal system, focusing on how civil disputes are resolved in the courts and through alternative methods.

Key Topics Include:

- Structure of civil courts (County Court, High Court, Court of Appeal)
- Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) methods
- Legal personnel (judges, solicitors, barristers)
- Civil dispute procedures
- Negligence and liability (duty of care, breach, causation)
- Evaluation of legal processes

Assessment:

Externally assessed task set and marked by Pearson (Exam – 90 mins).

Unit 2: Investigating Aspects of Criminal Law and the Legal System

This unit explores criminal law, the role of legal professionals, and the institutions involved in the criminal justice process.

Key Topics Include:

- Parliamentary law-making process

- Delegated legislation
- Statutory interpretation
- EU and its impact on parliamentary sovereignty
- Criminal court structure and hierarchy
- Legal professionals in criminal law (CPS, solicitors, barristers, magistrates)
- Key criminal offences (non-fatal offences like assault and battery)
- Elements of a crime: actus reus and mens rea
- Laypeople in the legal system (juries and magistrates)
- Sentencing and aims of punishment

Assessment:

Internally assessed assignment work marked by teachers and verified by Pearson.

Unit 3: Applying the Law

This unit focuses on applying knowledge of criminal offences and defences to realistic case scenarios.

Key Topics Include:

- Offences against the person: murder and manslaughter
- Offences against property: theft, burglary, robbery
- Criminal defences: self-defence, insanity, intoxication, automatism
- Legal rules, precedents, and statutory interpretation
- Applying case law and legal reasoning

Assessment:

Externally assessed controlled assessment set and marked by Pearson (Exam – 120 mins)

Unit 4: Aspects of Family Law

This unit explores legal issues relating to family life and relationships, including marriage, divorce, and parental responsibility.

Key Topics Include:

- Marriage, civil partnerships, and cohabitation
- Divorce and separation
- Parental responsibility and children's rights
- Legal procedures in the Family Court (various orders during divorce and dissolutions)

Assessment:

Internally assessed assignment work marked by teachers and verified by Pearson.

Assessment Methods:

Internal assessment: Assignments, case studies, and reports set and marked by teachers

External assessment: Controlled tasks and written assessments set and marked by Pearson

Assessment is continuous, rather than end-of-year exams

Grading Structure:

Each unit is individually graded as:

Pass (P)

Merit (M)

Distinction (D)

The overall qualification is awarded as:

Pass (P)

Merit (M)

Distinction (D)

Distinction (D*)*

*Final grades depend on performance across all units.

Skills Developed:

Legal research and case analysis

Application of legal principles to realistic scenarios

Critical thinking and evaluation

Communication and report-writing

Professional understanding of the legal system

This qualification supports progression to university courses in Law, Criminology, or Public Services, as well as legal apprenticeships and entry-level roles in legal administration, policing, or the justice sector.