

**Subject:**

# Criminology Level 3 Diploma

**Criminology Level 3 Diploma Intent:**

The Criminology Level 3 Diploma is a basic grounding in what criminologists do. The course is well designed and many of the main themes, such as forensics, campaigns on crime and theories explaining criminal behaviour are hinged on a key case study which draw students in and encourage them to explore the subject further. Students also learn how the criminal justice system works and by the end of the two year course they have a very detailed knowledge of the various processes involved from crime scene to court room. They also develop a heightened awareness of why crime occurs, how it is controlled and the various methods of punishment available. Students also gain an appreciation of the importance of criminology as a subject they may wish to pursue within a career or in higher education, after sixth form.

Our Exam Board is: **WJEC**

## The Big Questions...

### Year 12

- **Analyse different types of crime**
- **Understand why campaigns are sometimes used to elicit change**
- **Criminological explanations of crime**
  
- **Big Questions Explored:**  
What are the various types of crime; who commits them and who are the victims?  
Why do some crimes go under-reported?  
What role does the media play in influencing the public's perception of crime?  
Can criminal behaviour be explained with psychology, sociology or biology?  
What do studies of criminals tell us about why they committed crime?  
What campaigns have been successful in changing the law on some crimes?

### Year 13

- **Understand the process of criminal investigation**
- **Analyse how suspects are prosecuted**
- **Understand the role of the Criminal Justice System in the UK**
  
- **Big Questions Explored:**  
Who investigates crime and what methods do they use?  
How effective are the various methods used to investigate crime?  
How can mistakes occur in the investigation of crime?  
How does the CJS operate when processing criminals?  
Who are members of the judiciary and what do they do?  
How effective is punishment in the UK and what are the alternatives?

### What skills will I develop?

- Students will learn ways to investigate crime. They will evaluate the roles of the personnel involved in investigating crime, such as Scene of Crime Officers (SOCO) as well as analysing the methods they use, such as forensics.
- Students will consider some key cases which illustrate the fundamental importance of reliable evidence. They will also consider cases where evidence may have led to a miscarriage of justice and cases where evidence has been inconclusive.
- Students will analyse key case studies of individual criminals to identify personality traits which may have led them to commit crime.
- Students will be able to evaluate the usefulness of criminological theories as a means of explaining why crime occurs.

### How will I be assessed?

The diploma is assessed in four parts, each worth 25% of the overall grade. Students will be set homework which will aim to support them in the key examinations.

#### Examination:

Year 12 students (pre-Christmas) will sit an eight-hour-long (split over two days) internal exam.

Students will be able to bring a folder of work, which they will have compiled over the term, into the exam, which they will work from. This exam is Unit 1 and is worth 25% of their overall mark.

Year 12 students will do a mock after Christmas to prepare them for the Summer Unit 2 exam. This is a 90 minute long exam, consisting of short questions.

Year 13 students (pre-Christmas) will sit an eight-hour-long (split over two days) internal exam.

Students will be able to bring a folder of work into this exam, as in Year 12.

Year 13 students will do a mock after Christmas to prepare them for the Summer Unit 2 exam. This is a 90 minute long exam, consisting of short questions.

### What great resources can I use?

- Students will be given handouts in the lesson and small booklets pre-exams. These will be very useful in preparing material for their folders and also for revision for the Unit 2 and Unit 4 external exams.
- Students are often directed to watch crime documentary programmes, as homework which are specific to their learning in the various units of Criminology.
- <https://quizlet.com/en-gb> this is a great site which students can use to prepare revision resources for the external summer exams they will take in both Years 12 and 13.

### Three ways that parents/carers can help...

1. Show My Homework is our school site where homework is put up, logged and sometimes graded. Parents can access this. It is a good way to monitor your child's progress.
2. Getting in touch with the teacher if you have any concerns [kate.magee@yateley.hants.sch.uk](mailto:kate.magee@yateley.hants.sch.uk)
3. Encouraging your daughter or son to explore routes after college which they will find interesting and exciting. When students have a goal, it is one of the best motivating tools in terms of achievement.