**Criminology**

**KS5**

The WJEC Level 3 in Criminology is designed to offer exciting and interesting experiences and has elements of Psychology, Law and Sociology. Throughout this course, learners gain an understanding of why people commit crime, different types of crime, influences on perceptions of crime and an understanding of the criminal justice system – from crime identification through to the final verdict. It offers a fascinating insight into the world of crime, the causes of crime, and how to effectively prevent it.

Teaching methods include lectures, analysing case studies, group discussions and presentations. Students are expected to undertake background reading, write regular essays, and learn key facts and theories to complete regular short answer responses. Throughout the course students will gain insights into real-life crime to understand important aspects like motivation and modus operandi. They will be taught to examine and respond to source material on a range of crime-related matters, developing the skills of written and oral analysis. Students will also benefit from contact with teachers who have wide-ranging interdisciplinary experience (Philosophy, Psychology, History and Sociology), giving them an appreciation of the bigger picture of the field of Humanities and Social Science. Students will also meet and speak to professionals who work in the criminal justice system and associated areas and visit a Crown Court to see criminal cases being prosecuted.

The course is made up of 4 mandatory units each worth 25% of the course:

* Changing Awareness of Crime
* Criminological Theories
* Crime Scene to Courtroom
* Crime and Punishment

The Level 3 Diploma in Criminology is assessed using a combination of internal and external assessment. Two units (Criminological Theories and Crime and Punishment) are externally assessed. This involves a 90-minute examination with three questions on each paper; each question will have an applied problem-solving scenario. The Criminological Theories exam is taken in the summer of Year 12, the Crime and Punishment examination is taken in the summer of Year 13.

The Changing Awareness of Crime and Crime Scene to Courtroom units are internally assessed and externally verified. These are eight-hour online assessments against an unseen assessment brief/scenario against specific assessment objectives. The Changing Awareness of Crime online assessment takes place in Spring 1 of Year 12 and the Crime Scene to Courtroom online assessment takes place in Autumn 2 of Year 13.

Students must achieve at least an E grade in each mandatory unit to gain the qualification. Students must achieve an A grade in each mandatory unit to gain an A\* qualification.