Cornwallis Academy
Ambitions for All

SMILE
SUCCESSFUL | MOTIVATED | INSPIRED | LEARNING | EXCITED & ENGAGED

Criminology

Curriculum Intent

The WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology is a challenging and engaging qualification designed to give learners a comprehensive understanding of crime, criminal behaviour, and the criminal justice system.

Throughout the qualification, learners explore the nature of crime, including how it is defined, perceived, and reported in society. They develop an understanding of key criminological theories that attempt to explain why individuals commit crime, such as biological, psychological, and sociological explanations.

Students also investigate the processes of criminal investigations, examining how evidence is collected, analysed, and used within legal contexts. This includes evaluating the effectiveness of forensic techniques and the role of professionals such as police officers, forensic scientists, and lawyers. A key aspect of the course is understanding the criminal justice system, including the role of courts, sentencing processes, and the effectiveness of punishment and rehabilitation strategies. Learners critically assess how justice is achieved and the impact of different approaches on individuals and society.

By completing this course, learners develop valuable transferable skills such as critical thinking, analysis, evaluation, research, and communication. These skills support progression into higher education and a range of careers, including law, policing, forensic science, social work, and psychology.

Assessment, Marking and Feedback

Students will be assessed by 2, 8 hour-controlled assessments during the course the qualification. One in the December of Year 12 and the other the December of Year 13. They will be held across 3 days for each controlled assessment.

The overall content of this Learning Aim will be assessed through a practice written activity throughout Term 1 and Term 2, using different cases and scenario to the controlled assessment at the end of Term 2.

Students will also undertake an examination at the end of each academic year for Units 2 and 4. Each exam is an hour and a half in length. PPE's will take place in the March of that academic year.

Links to National Curriculum / Syllabus Specifications

Level 3 Criminology (wjec.co.uk)

Exam Support & Revision Resources

WJEC Level 3 Applied Certificate & Diploma Criminology: Revised Edition: Amazon.co.uk: Henderson, Carole A: 9781912820986: Books

Interested to know more?

To read:

- www.crimestatistics.org.uk
- http://www.exploreforensics.co.uk
- Shallow Graves – Ray Fysh

To watch:

- Crime | Channel 5 - YouTube
- Making a Murderer

- BBC True Crime Documentaries

To listen:

- Lady Killers with Lucy Worsley - Podcast
- Crime Next Door - Podcast
- Scam Secrets - Podcast

To visit:

- Maidstone Crown Court
- The Crime Museum Hastings
- Jack the Ripper Museum London