

## BTEC Applied Law Summer Independent Learning

Welcome to BTEC Applied Law!

This pack contains various tasks to help you prepare for the start of your course in September.

Please **complete ALL tasks** ready for your first day at New College and bring them with you to your first BTEC Applied Law lesson. Do the tasks in the **spaces provided** in this pack.

Please be aware that you will sit an **assessment** on the knowledge and skills covered in this pack within the **first week** of you starting at NCB. You will have an opportunity to review your Summer Independent Learning and ask any questions on what you have learnt when you meet your teacher in one of the lessons before you sit the assessment.

**This must be brought in as a printed copy to your first lesson. This is because your teacher will take it in and check it.**

The BTEC Applied Law course involves studying 2 units in year 12 and 2 units in year 13. One unit each year will be assessed through coursework and the other unit will be assessed through an external assessment (exam).

**You cannot plagiarise (copy) any work from the internet for any of the tasks. Everything must be your own words.**

The Summer Independent Learning in this pack will focus on **Unit 2 – Investigating Aspects of Criminal Law and the Legal System**. This is the first unit you will learn in September. It is all about:

Learning Aim C	Learn about all the different people involved during a trial
Learning Aim D	Learn about the different non-fatal offences against a person and sentencing of offenders

In England and Wales, there are two main groups of people involved in the criminal justice system; these are **Legal Professionals** and **Lay People**. This will be the focus of **part 1** in this pack. Please ensure you are looking at websites relevant for England and Wales only.

Once you have completed these tasks, you will have gained knowledge of:

- Magistrate Judges
- Juries
- Solicitors
- Barristers
- Legal Executives
- Judges

## People in a trial

A lay person is someone who is not legally qualified (ordinary people). Lay People are involved in trials as **Magistrate Judges** and **Juries**. They decide the guilt or innocence of those on trial in the criminal courts.

**Task 1** – Watch the following videos on the different people within the criminal courts, and do the tasks below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WeNDacwO5NA> – Magistrates Court



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tZYvv\\_s5R-s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tZYvv_s5R-s) – Crown Court



a) **Identify** all of the legal and lay people the **Magistrates** and **Crown Court**. This could include a diagram of where they would all be located within the courtrooms.

<u>Magistrates Court</u>

<u>Crown Court</u>

b) **Explain** their roles (what they do) within the Magistrates Court and the Crown Court. You must do this with at least 100 words per

	Role (what they do)
Juries	
Magistrate Judge	
Barristers	
Solicitors	
Legal Executives	
Judges	

## Legal Professionals

Legal Professionals are also known collectively as 'Lawyers'. They include **Solicitors, Barristers, and Legal Executives**. They all have legal qualifications.

**Task 2** – Legal Professionals Activity – using the internet **research solicitors, barristers and legal executives and complete the below activity**

*You are a Career's Advisor at New College Bradford, students have asked for information on the legal career. As part of your role, you have been asked to create career's information for NCB students on a career as a barrister and a solicitor.*

You can choose how to provide this information, it could be a report, a poster, a leaflet, 'A day in the Life of' etc. Your advice **MUST** include the following;

- What type of work they do
- What a typical day might involve.
- Qualifications required (different ways to becoming a solicitor, barrister or legal executive)
- What training is required for all 3 legal careers
- What starting salaries are and what they earn on average
- Differences and similarities between the 3 professions.
- Advantages and disadvantages of using them when you have a legal problem.
- Other professions or roles that a student could do if they wanted to work within the legal sector but did not want to become a solicitor, barrister or legal executive.

You will be provided with instructions on how to submit this work electronically when you start the course as you will be assessed on what you produce. Please ensure that this is all of your own work and not simply copied from the internet.

## Elements of a Crime

In order to be guilty of a criminal offence, the defendant (the accused person) must commit the **actus reus** and **mens rea** of the crime. You normally need both to be found guilty.



**Actus Reus** (AR) – Physical element of a crime (doing something or failing to do something which is illegal)

**Mens Rea** (MR) – Mental element of a crime (having a guilty intention/mind)

**Task 3** – using the internet research AR and MR and explain what they both mean in the space below. Give examples

*Actus reus is...*

*Mens Rea is...*


## Omissions






Although most people are guilty for physically doing an act, sometimes people can be guilty of a criminal offence where they do the opposite of an act, such as 'failing to act' e.g. failing to stop at traffic lights, failing to care for their children. This is known as being **liable by omission**. (LBO) **An omission is a failure to act or a failure to do something.** This is usually when a person has a **duty of care** and **breaches** that duty.

**Task 4** – Using the internet and the following links research the area of Omissions and detail the facts of the case examples: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vOM7vNPYW-s>

<http://e-lawresources.co.uk/Actus-reus.php>



Area of Omissions	Explanation of the law	Case examples – Facts of the case
Contractual Duty  		R v Adomako (1994)  R v Pitwood (1902)

<p>Public Duties/official position</p>		<p>R v Dytham (1979)</p> 
<p>Acceptance of Care</p> 		<p>R v Stone and Dobinson (1977)</p>
<p>Duty via Relationship</p> 		<p>R v Gibbins and Proctor (1918)</p>
<p>Creation of a danger</p> 		<p>R v Miller (1983)</p>
<p>Statutory Duty (Parliament said so)</p> 		<p>Road Traffic Act (1988) – Give examples of when you will be Liable by omission:</p>

