

Junior Lawyers Club Programme of Study

Skills and Competencies

Skills and Competencies are taught alongside the Knowledge Programme. Students complete the programme at their own pace and can attend a single workshop or regular workshops over a number of years. Completion is determined by a number of factors, including age of child, regularity of attendance, level of study, complexity according to age group and the subject area being discussed.

Key Transferable Skill of a Lawyer	Elements	Practical Application
Debating Skills	Mental Attributes such as listening and mental agility.	Universal: e.g. Debating, social situations, exam and assessments
	Content – creating and structuring arguments. Expressing them clearly and concisely.	Universal: in particular all formal and informal exams and assessments Interviews
	Delivery, including tone pace pitch Body Language	Useful for GCSE spoken presentation components in English Language and others. Presentations, interviews, school assemblies, school committees
	Critical Thinking, Rhetoric and logic	Essential for navigating information on the Internet - identifying fake news Debating skills GCSEs, e.g. English Language, Literature, History, etc.

	Terminology- building up suitable terminology or technical phrases	Speaking fluently and persuasively with authority, for example in an interview or school presentation.
Presentation Skills	Preparation and overcoming nerves Persuasion Debating skills as above Responding to questions	GCSE English Language spoken presentation element or for GCSE Language spoken element School or outside club presentations, oral exams, assemblies, social speeches.
Public Speaking/Advocacy	Presence, delivery, persuasion and preparation	
Critical and Lateral Thinking	Meaning Arguments and evidence Questioning presumptions	Essential for GCSE English Language, English Literature, History, etc. Now a major component of job selection, done in the form of assessment programmes.

Creative Thinking & Problem Solving	Innovative solutions New approaches	An essential life skill. Specifically useful for exam and interview scenarios. Also a component on assessment selection days for many jobs (e.g. for Banks and Graduate Assessment Programmes).
Communication Skills	Delivery, Rhetoric and Body Language	
Research Skills	Carrying out research, including literature reviews, research methodology and collating results.	Research projects in schools from KS2 to A Levels. Researching University choices, employment decisions, making key life decisions. Learning Research Skills is also very useful for future university study and postgraduate degrees.
Essay Writing Skills	Clarity and Lucidity Structure, sources and terminology Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation Technical Writing	Debating Competitions SATS/11 Plus exams/GCSEs/A Levels Application forms Coursework - for secondary school, university, etc.

Exam/Assessment Skills	Study Planning Timeboxing Focussing Prioritising Revision Techniques	Exams and assessments from secondary school to university to postgraduate.
Leadership and Teamwork	Qualities, theories and styles Emotional Intelligence	For school situations, for example, becoming a prefect or representative on the School Council. Often tested as an exercise on a Graduate Assessment Programme or in job interviews.
Negotiation Skills	Advocacy style Manner and Delivery Theories of Principled Negotiation	Useful for negotiating pocket money, screentimes, parental restrictions, etc.
Interview Skills	Preparation Performance Feedback	Secondary school interviews, university and employment interviews.

Diplomacy Skills	Tactfulness	A universally needed skill, especially so, given globalisation.
Networking and Communication Skills	The Art of Conversation, Networking and Social Communication	Becoming adept at making friends and contacts - an essential skill in an increasingly online world.

Substantive Knowledge- Law, Politics and Philosophy

The following table is an abridged version of the areas and topics covered on the JLC Programme of Study, taught alongside the skills in the workshop. Topics are introduced in an age-appropriate way by UK lawyers or UK university lecturers, as a brief introduction to some of the activities or debates.

The information below is intended as a short guide as topics are regularly reviewed by our Board of Professional Advisors. All classroom topics are gauged and assessed as to their suitability for the age profile of the group.

Area	Why is this useful?
Constitutional Law	<p>This topic puts into context issues such as the Rule of Law, who runs the country, how states and leaders interact, and how the British Parliamentary System works. It teaches the vocabulary and concepts to understand the news and current affairs.</p> <p>Issues you might discuss include:</p> <p><i>Where are the rules regarding how a country is governed? How can you change the law?</i></p> <p><i>Should Britain have a written (codified) constitution?</i></p> <p><i>If you wanted to create the most 'just society' what rules would you draft? How do these compare to the rules we have in place in the United Kingdom?</i></p>
Human Rights Law	<p><i>This topic looks at how what Human Rights are and how they are protected under the European Convention on Human Rights and the Human Rights Act 1998.</i></p> <p>Examples:</p> <p><i>How does the court balance the right to privacy, and the right to freedom of speech?</i></p> <p><i>Should we have complete freedom of speech with no restrictions?</i></p> <p><i>Should parents be allowed to smack their children?</i></p>

<p>Additional Topics on the programme include key concepts and discussions from areas including:</p>	<p><i>Criminal Law</i> – e.g. <i>should a person be guilty for simply thinking of committing a crime?</i></p> <p><i>Criminology</i> - e.g. <i>what is the aim of punishment? Can you design a punishment system for various crimes?</i></p> <p><i>Tort Law</i> -e.g. <i>you see someone about to walk off a cliff – are you legally bound to shout out a warning? Should you be?</i></p> <p><i>Contract Law</i> – e.g. <i>can children make binding contracts?</i></p> <p><i>Business Law</i> -e.g. <i>you develop a new product with a friend. How can you turn this into a business?</i></p> <p><i>Legal Philosophy</i>- e.g. <i>if you were creating the rules of society from scratch, what would they be and why?</i></p> <p><i>Moral Philosophy</i> – e.g. <i>is lying always wrong? Is it morally wrong to eat animals?</i></p> <p><i>The Philosophy of Art/Aesthetics</i>- e.g. <i>what makes something a work of art? Is it the context, the value, or the creator?</i></p> <p><i>Politics</i>- e.g. <i>how would you organise a new society? Is there a contract between the citizen and the state?</i></p>
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