

### **S3 Modern Studies Course**

The S3 Modern Studies course focusses on the topic of Crime and the Law, an area of Modern Studies that pupils always find fascinating and engaging. The course includes discussion of the different types of crime and of why people commit crimes. We also look at the impact of crime on individuals and the community as well the role of the police and the justice system (courts). We also look at the prison system and alternatives to prisons as well as what the government are doing to reduce crime.



Learning takes place in a variety of ways in order to engage you and develop your skills, as well as your understanding of the topic. For example, you will complete a crime investigation on a subject of your choice and are asked to carry out surveys on the topic of alcohol and crime and to display and explain your findings from these surveys. You will also take part in a mock trial to fully learn about the workings of the Scottish court system.

Through the course, you are taught to critically examine evidence and a variety of sources. You will learn to evaluate the extent to which a given statement can be supported by the facts.

In the latter part of S3, you will move on from the S3 course and begin studying for your National Modern Studies qualifications. Those who choose to continue with the subject will then finish the National Modern Studies course in S4. In the National Modern Studies course you complete an international unit on China and a political unit on the government of Scotland. This wide ranging course gives you an excellent variety of topics. It also equips you with a varied assortment of skills, including investigating, decision making, evaluating and analysing.

**For further advice or information, speak to Mr MacKay, Mrs Reid, Mr Sheerin or Mr Whiteford.**