

Guildford Crown Court Mock Trials

On Saturday 17th March, an eager new team of 15 year 9 students spent the day at Guildford Crown Court to compete in the regional Mock Trials competition. We presented prosecution and defence teams of lawyers, witnesses, ushers, magistrates, court reporters and court artists to compete in front of a Crown Court judge against other schools in Surrey. Students spent months preparing prosecution and defence teams for a case involving possession of a bladed article; they developed arguments, wrote examination-in-chief and cross-examination questions, and constructed opening and closing statements. Students thrived under the pressure of a real courtroom environment and were rightly proud of their achievements.



Emma Litjens, who played a witness in the trials, said that:

“This competition really helped with my understanding of criminal trials and the legal system. It made me feel much more comfortable yet challenged at the same time. I think the best thing about this competition has to be the atmosphere of it all. It is tense yet everyone supports each other and works hard. I also loved when we were able to go down into the cells and see the policemen and women- as well as a police dog! To be able to sit and talk with real magistrates and barristers is just surreal. Overall, I absolutely loved it and would recommend it to everyone.”