

THE 3VB LAW DAY

On Thursday 13 September 2018 3VB hosted **30** Year 12 students from state schools all around the country. The programme of events comprised (1) 9 short talks from Members of Chambers; (2) “mini-moot” workshops run by Members of Chambers and a mini-moot; (3) lunch in Gray’s Inn (grace of 3VB) and (4) a tour of the Inns and Courts.

Background to 3VB Law Day

Over thirty years ago Eton College started a Universities Summer School for bright Year 12 pupils (i.e. aged 17) exclusively from the state sector. It runs for 2 weeks each July (after the end of the Summer Term). No more than 2 or 3 pupils from any one school are admitted – so that the group is drawn from state schools from all around the UK. The focus of the course is on academic excellence and it is heavily subsidised.

3VB’s Matthew Hardwick QC has offered an introduction to the law at the Summer School for state-school students for many years. However there is always a core of pupils who are very curious to know more about the legal profession and the Bar in particular. Moreover 3VB barristers Ian Higgins, Alexia Knight, Kate Holderness and James Potts each independently attended the Summer School as young students themselves. It was this constant level of interest that gave rise to this initiative to attempt to de-mystify the Bar, with the first 3VB Law Day held in September 2013.

This year was the sixth annual 3VB Law Day. Moreover this year the net was widened further: in addition to 10 pupils from the Summer Course (from a variety of different schools), the day was attended by 7 from the London Academy of Excellence, 6 from Holyport College; and 5 from the Windsor Boys’ School.

The course comprised:

Programme of events

Session 1 (10.10-11.10): An Introduction to the Bar

10.10	Justin Nolan & Matthew Hardwick QC	Introductions
10.15	Ali Malek QC	Why a career at the Bar?
10.25	Phil Hinks	What do Barristers do?
10.30	Ian Higgins & Chris Harris	From School to the Bar: personal perspectives
10.35	Miriam Schmelzer	A day in the life of a junior barrister
10.40	Matthew Hardwick QC	Which degree? Which area of practice?



10.45	Adam Kramer	BPTC (courses, costs & scholarships)
10.50	Catherine Gibaud QC	Pupillage (& Awards)
11.00	Lisa Lacob	Equality & Diversity at the Bar

Session 2 (11.30-13.00): Workshops and a “m ini-moot”

- 11.30-12.30 4 mini-moot “workshops” re *Porcine v Long Sutton Golf Club* (run by Raj Pillai, Chris Bond, Hannah Glover and Nathaniel Bird)
- 12.30-13.00 A mini-moot with 4 volunteer student advocates (judged by Andrew Onslow QC)

There were in fact 6 advocate volunteers – all of whom were brave enough (on just 40 minutes of instruction on an interlocutory injunction) to get their feet and try to persuade Judge Onslow of the justice of their case.

LUNCH IN GRAY’S INN (13.15-14.00)

Session 3 (14.00-15.30): Tour of the Inns and Courts

- 14.00-15.30 Tour of the Inns and the RCJ/Rolls Building (guided by Sophia Zwig, Ryan Ferro and Matthew Hardwick QC)
- 15.30-16.00 Debrief back at 3VB