

# Glenlola Collegiate School

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Headmaster: W E Thompson BSc MSc MEd PGCE PQH(NI)



05/06/2020

## Bar Mock Trial Competition 2020-2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I am delighted to be able to inform you that Glenlola Collegiate will once again take part in the Bar Mock Trial. This is a fantastic opportunity for any pupil considering a career in the justice system. The programme usually includes using tailored and age-appropriate legal resources to build a case. This will usually be in preparation for the regional competition, where the cases will be acted out in a criminal trial in a real court, in front of a real judge.

While we do not yet know exactly what the competition element of the programme will look like in the coming months, we are keen to allow pupils to gain an insight into the world of Law that comes from being involved in the programme and preparation. Pupils will also gain experience which may be extremely valuable when applying for university.

If the competition is able to go ahead in January 2021, winning teams from each regional heat will advance to the national final in March.

We anticipate that, as we will be beginning the programme in late August or early September, some of the preparation and teaching will take place through live online lessons using video conferencing software. This would probably take the form of one lesson per week (lasting between sixty and ninety minutes) plus individual study and preparation between lessons.

Pupils must be willing to commit to uphold this commitment and be prepared to complete all the additional preparation and research work before applying to be part of the team. While the programme does involve a lot of hard work, it develops pupils' skills in critical thinking, public speaking, flexibility and problem-solving, as well as their ability to work independently and in a team.

Pupils currently in years 12 and 13 can apply to by joining the Bar Mock Trial Google Classroom (code: **x5btzvh**) and completing the application process outlined therein by 15:30 on Friday 19th June.

Due to the success of the previous two years, we do anticipate a lot of interest in the programme this year. As there are a limited number of spaces on the team, an additional application and/or interview process (via video-link) may then be followed.

If you would like any additional information, please see the attached file, and the Young Citizens website: <https://smartlaw.org.uk/mock-trials/bar-mock-trials-teachers/>.

Kind regards,

*E Graham*

**Mrs E Graham**

Head of English and Drama, and Bar Mock Trial Coordinator