

# School of Law Newsletter

Term 1 December 2025



## End-of-Term Message from the Head of School

As we come to the end of a fantastic and eventful term, I want to thank all our students and staff for their hard work, enthusiasm, and commitment. This term has showcased brilliant opportunities and events. I am incredibly proud of what you have all achieved and am excited for the opportunities that lie ahead next term. I wish you all a restful break and look forward to welcoming you back refreshed and ready for Term 2.

**Dr Emma Nottingham**  
Head of School of Law



# Opening the Moot Court

This term we proudly opened our on-campus courtroom. This fantastic new learning resource provides students with hands-on opportunities and strengthens our commitment to excellence in practical legal education.



## Professional Mentoring

Legal professionals from across the region (including some of our very own alumni) are mentoring fifteen 3<sup>rd</sup> year students on the [Careers Professional Mentoring Programme](#) organised by the **University of Winchester Student Support and Success team**.

Organisations involved include: **Jones Day; Moore Barlow LLP; Dutton Gregory Solicitors; Paris Smith LLP; Churchers Solicitors; Underwood Solicitors LLP.**

[Find out more about how the Student Support and Success team can help you](#)

## Legal Advice Centre

It's been another successful term for the Legal Advice Centre. Thank you to **Steve Hurley, Jonathan Whettingsteel** and all students who support this initiative.

The **Legal Advice Centre** was established thanks to a partnership between the University of Winchester and the Winchester office of **Dutton Gregory Solicitors**. Members of the community can book an advice session with a qualified lawyer who will provide initial oral legal advice on family law matters for free, 'pro bono'.

[Legal Advice Centre - University of Winchester](#)



## Trip to Foot Anstey Solicitors

**Dr Thomas Webber** and **Dr Emma Nottingham** accompanied a group of law students to Foot Anstey Solicitors in Southampton. Students engaged in sessions on business development and delivered a commercial pitch in front of a judging panel.

## Law Fair 2025

This year's annual Law Fair, organised by the **student Law Society**, brought together solicitors, barristers, legal professionals, and organisations from across the region. Students had the opportunity to network, explore career pathways, and gain first-hand advice from practitioners.

A particular highlight was welcoming back many of our alumni, who returned to share their experiences and offer guidance to current students. Their continued involvement reflects the strong and supportive community within the School of Law.

## Law Week Festival

**Natacha Harding** from the Department of Policing, Criminology and Forensics ran a 'Whodunnit' at the Cathedral - a cold case and the death of Elwyn Wollaston in 1725. Participants had the opportunity to visit a reconstructed crime scene, engage with 'archival records' and interview re-enacted witness statements. Enormous thanks to **Dr Emily Otley** for being such a convincing witness!

# October Highlights



## Graduation 2025

The graduation ceremony was a moment of immense pride and joy, marking the transformation of our students from eager learners into accomplished graduates ready to make their mark on the world. Seeing their journey unfold, from their first days at university to this remarkable achievement, was truly inspiring. The day was filled with warmth and celebration as families and friends joined in honouring their success.

## Winchester Legal Walk

**Dr Khadijeh Masty** and **Steve Hurley** (alongside **Dr Simon Fox**, Head of the Department of Policing, Criminology and Forensics and **Monika Scholtz**, PA to the Dean of the Faculty of Law, Crime and Justice) took part in Winchester's first sponsored Legal Walk, bringing together many legal professionals who walked from **Winchester Combined Court** to The Royal Oak in a show of solidarity for access to justice.

Sixteen fundraising teams collectively raised over £8,134, significantly surpassing the original target for Citizens Advice Winchester District. The event was organised by a local barrister and judge in collaboration with the **London Legal Support Trust**, with all proceeds going directly to **Citizens Advice Winchester**, a nonprofit organisation offering free legal advice to local residents.

# November Highlights

## Pro Bono Week

Pro Bono Week 2025 was celebrated across the University of Winchester. Students, staff, and distinguished guests came together to reflect on the importance of pro bono work in promoting fairness, access to justice, and public service.

We were delighted to welcome **His Honour Sir Peter Thornton KC**, the first Chief Coroner of England and Wales, who delivered a compelling talk entitled 'Death Investigation – Coroners and Inquests', which explored the essential role played by coroners and inquests within the justice system.



## The Great Legal Bake

The student **Law Society** took part in the annual Great Legal Bake to support the London Legal Support Trust. The event raised funds for free legal advice services that support vulnerable people across the UK. Third year students **Jessie Cawsey** and **Saskia Simpson** hosted a vibrant cake stall, offering an array of homemade bakes to staff and students. Special mention to **Dr Emily Otley**, whose creative *Donoghue v Stevenson* and cookie monster cakes were a particular highlight.



## Guest Talk with Pupil Barrister Dr Jonathan Davies from KBG Chambers

Pupil Barrister **Dr Jonathan Davies** from **KBG Chambers** visited us to speak with students about the journey to becoming a barrister. Jonathan shared insight into the realities of pupillage, the demands of advocacy, and the importance of resilience and passion for those aspiring to a career at the Bar. His talk offered students valuable guidance on career planning, building experience, and navigating the increasingly competitive path to practice.

## Mock Interviews with Dutton Gregory Solicitors

Students took part in mock interviews at **Dutton Gregory Solicitors**. This was a great opportunity for students to gain interview experience in a professional setting. Very well done to all involved.



## LLM Legal Practice

[Applications open for September 2026](#)

A panel of legal professionals came to speak to our LLM Legal Practice students including two of our law alumni **Sophie Woodman** and **Kieran Whitt** from **Churchers Solicitors**, as well as **Jonathan Whettingsteel**, Partner and Head of Family from **Dutton Gregory Solicitors**.

For questions about the LLM Legal Practice, contact the Programme Leader **Dr Thomas Webber**. [Click here for further information.](#)

**Postgraduate  
Study**

**APPLY NOW  
SEPTEMBER 2026**

**Find out more at our  
Postgraduate Open  
Evening** Next on-campus  
event - **11<sup>th</sup> March 2026**  
[Postgraduate Events -  
University of Winchester](#)

## MSc Criminal Justice and Investigation

[Applications open for September 2026](#)

The course offers a range of contemporary criminal justice subject areas with a focus on the professional skills required within the criminal justice sector at a local and national level. Developing key analytical and professional skills such as investigatory skills, complex information management and analysis, writing and drafting skills, is at the centre of the programme design. [MSc Criminal Justice and Investigation - University of Winchester](#)

## LLM Law (Conversion)

[Applications open for September 2026](#)

This term we officially welcomed the first cohort of students to the newly launched LLM Law (Conversion) programme.

To find out more about the LLM Law (Conversion), contact the Programme Leader **Dr Khadijeh Masty**. [Click here for further information.](#)

## Working with Schools and Colleges

**Julian Dobson, Dr Emma Nottingham and Dr Simon Fox** went to **Barton Peveril College**. Students had the chance to engage in eyewitness memory exercises and a mock bail application as well as the chance to wear barrister wigs and gowns!

**Dr Khadijeh Masty** was invited to deliver an introductory lecture on Immigration Law to a group of law students at **Peter Symonds College**.

**Dr Emily Ottley** and **Dr Emma Nottingham** hosted a group of **Barton Peveril College** students on campus to speak about 'Research Process' to support students in their interdisciplinary learning projects. The students returned to the university in December to present their work.

**Adam Wojcik, Sarah Dewar, Leo Todd** and **Dr Emma Nottingham** ran a Case Study Day with **Andover College** entitled 'Crime Scene to Courtroom'. Year 12 and Year 13 students engaged in hands-on activities in our on-campus **Crime Scene House** and a bail application in the new courtroom.

## Undergraduate Open Days

Next Open Day for prospective undergraduate students  
**10<sup>th</sup> January 2026** [Open Days - University of Winchester](#)

## Staff update

**Dr Amelia Shooter** and **Dr Emily Ottley** will be leaving the University in January. A big thank you to both Amelia and Emily for all their hard work and contributions to the School of Law.

## Academic Support

We hope that everything goes smoothly as you prepare for your Term 1 assessments. If things don't go according to plan, and circumstances arise beyond your control, we encourage you to make use of the Exceptional Circumstances policy. You can find information in the Assessment Details on each module Canvas page. If something does arise, please also reach out to your Personal Academic Tutor (PAT) and/or the Faculty SARA, Caitlin Brodie. [sara.lci@winchester.ac.uk](mailto:sara.lci@winchester.ac.uk) You can also contact [law.admin@winchester.ac.uk](mailto:law.admin@winchester.ac.uk) who will be happy to help.

## Learning Resources

As we enter the assessment period, we wanted to remind you about the high-quality learning resources in place to help you prepare and feel confident completing your assessments. You have access to a wide range of specialist legal databases, extensive library collections, and academic skills support.

[Knowledge and Digital Services | Winchester](#)

[Academic Success | Winchester](#)

**Library Opening Hours** You can access the Martial Rose Library and the West Downs Library 24/7 (with physical university card) until Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December. Both libraries are open over the holidays: for full details of dates and times [click here](#).

## Key Dates

### Winter Closure and January Assessment Period

Our last day of teaching is Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December.

The winter break is Monday 22 December 2025 to Friday 2 January 2026.

The Assessment Weeks are Monday 5 January to Friday 16 January 2026. Please check the Assessment Details on your module Canvas pages for specific deadlines and assessment instructions.

Staff have booked annual leave so be patient if you don't get an immediate response. If you have a burning question, please reach out anyway and we will respond as soon as we can. This goes for academic queries as well as pastoral support.

### Progress Week Term 2

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March- Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March.**

Activities in Term 2 Progress Week are designed to support you in thinking about your next steps, including choosing module options for next year, exploring career pathways, and learning more about postgraduate study. Your regular in-person teaching sessions will not take place in Term 2 Progress Week. An alternative timetable for Term 2 Progress Week will be provided.

## Upcoming Opportunities

### Student Competitions

There are a range of competitions that students are participating in next term, from the **2026 Client Interviewing Competition** to the **ESU Essex Court Chambers Mooting Competition**. We wish all students involved in these competitions the BEST of luck – you will, no doubt, do our university proud!

Keep an eye on the Canvas Homepage for more opportunities to take part in competitions.

### Careers Events

Keep an eye on the Canvas Homepage in the new year for information on upcoming careers events and opportunities.