



Debate Day Programme

General terms and conditions

1. The Supreme Court offers a total of 10 debate days a year, these typically follow the academic year and take place between September and July. These events are free of charge.
2. Debate day workshops are aimed at Sixth Form and GCSE (or equivalent) students from educational institutions across the UK. We do not accept applications for year groups above or below these.
3. Each educational institution must complete an application form in order to be considered for a debate day. Please note that we only accept one application per school/college - we do not accept applications from individual students.
4. Please ensure that you provide details of a main contact and a secondary contact on your application form including both a telephone number and email address.
5. Priority will be given to those educational institutions who have not participated in a Supreme Court debate day before, followed by those who have not taken part in a debate day within the last two years. We welcome applications from across the UK, in particular from institutions outside of England.
6. Debate days provide an insight into the workings of the Supreme Court but also gives students an opportunity to develop their critical thinking and communication skills. Whilst we accept students studying all subject disciplines, the event is particularly beneficial for those students who have a keen interest in pursuing law at a future stage.
7. UKSC debate days are becoming increasingly popular and those educational institutions that are successful in being allocated a debate day slot are expected to attend. Cancelling at short notice may jeopardise your chance of securing a place in future. If you are in any doubt that you will be able to commit to this requirement, please do not submit an application form.

Preparation and deadlines

8. Debate day workshops require a minimum of 15 students and can accommodate an absolute maximum of 25 students. Please ensure that you have the minimum student:teacher ratio of 10:1.

9. All successful applicants are expected to inform the Supreme Court of the final number of students attending the event one month in advance and of any other special arrangements.
10. Debate day workshops run from 11am – 3pm. We ask that educational institutions make travel arrangements in advance, factoring in how long it would take you to reach here. Groups are expected to arrive promptly so that the event finishes on time. Any late arrivals will risk jeopardising the schedule and other court arrangements or events.
11. To ensure students gain maximum benefit we ask that each student prepares notes on arguments “for” and “against” the debate question in advance of the day so that they have something to discuss in the debate preparation sessions with the lawyer.
12. Students are welcome to purchase food from the Supreme Court café or bring their own lunches. If you choose the latter option, please notify the court so that they can make necessary arrangements. If you wish to pre-order lunch you will need to notify the catering department: catering@supremecourt.uk

Rules and requirements

13. There will be no exceptions to the rules listed above. In keeping with the court’s wider educational programme, we expect all educational institutions to adhere to these rules.
14. The Supreme Court reserves the right to cancel or postpone an event at any time.

Unsuccessful applications

15. If your application is unsuccessful but you are still interested in participating in a debate day, we will keep your details on a database. In the event that there are any cancellations schools on this list may be contacted and offered a place. If you do not wish to be added to the database, please let us know.