Why Pathways to Law?

An 18 month programme for year 12 students interested in studying law

- Work experience in the legal sector;
- Attend a 3-night residential;
- University application advice and personal statement workshops;
- Guided by current University of Manchester law students;
- Visit the Inner Temple in London;
- Meet legal professionals, solicitors, barristers, university academics and law students!
What?
Pathways to Law, in partnership with the Sutton Trust, provides information, guidance and hands-on experience to students interested in studying law at university. The 18 month programme is open to students from state schools and colleges throughout Greater Manchester.

Pathways to Law is designed to give you the resources and information to understand what it means to both study and practice law. Students start the 18 month programme in the Autumn of year 12 and carry on until the Spring of year 13.

All Pathways sessions and work placements are scheduled to sit alongside your studies, taking place in the evenings, holiday periods or weekends, and avoiding any examination periods.

Who?
We are looking for students who will be beginning 6th form or college in September. Places are limited and will be allocated based on the information given on your online application form. Applications open after GCSE results have been announced and remain open until early October each year.

"The support from the programme coordinators was incredible."

Students applying to our Pathways programmes must meet the following criteria:

– Attend, and have always attended, a state-funded, non fee-paying school/college
– Be in Year 12 at the start of the programme
– Have achieved five GCSEs at grades 9-6, including English and Mathematics. A minimum of two of these qualifications should be at grades 9-7.
– Live within a reasonable commuting distance of the university
– Have little or no family history of university (your mum or dad didn’t go), or have been eligible for Free School Meals, the 16-19 Bursary or the Pupil Premium.

For full eligibility information, application deadlines and forms, please visit: www.suttontrust.com/our-programmes/pathways-to-law/

Due to social distancing requirements, please note that many activities will need to be delivered virtually during at least the first year of the programme. Therefore, it is vital that you have a secure Internet connection at home, and a device, with which to participate in online activities, such as on Zoom.

“The firm who I had the chance to work with allowed me to work in a few different departments which gave me a good flavour for different areas of legal work.”
Stephen Mackellar
How much will it cost?
Nothing! All the Pathways to Law sessions are free and any expenses incurred can be claimed back.

“My placement has inspired me to work in the legal world and has opened my eyes to the opportunities law offers.”

Louisa Cuddy

Programme highlights
These activities may take place in person or virtually.

Work placements
You will be given the opportunity to participate in a 3-5 day work placement with a local law firm, barristers chamber or legal organisation. The placement provides valuable experience to include on both university and future job applications.

National Conference
This 3-night residential conference is held each summer at The University of Warwick. This will give you an insight into student life and enable you to meet professionals from the legal sector and students from the other Pathways groups.

Graduation ceremony
Celebrate your achievements on the Pathways to Law programme alongside peers and family.

“The programme helped me to gain some amazing work experience, and also grow in self confidence.”

Louisa Cuddy

“Pathways to Law has been one of the best experiences of my life.”
Pathways to Law, run by the Sutton Trust and supported by the Legal Education Foundation, is an 18 month programme which supports academically-able students in year 12 and 13 from non-privileged backgrounds who are interested in a career in law.

For more info on the programme and how to apply, please visit:  
www.suttontrust.com/our-programmes/pathways-to-law/  
https://apply.suttontrust.com/

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