

## Who's Who in the Courtroom

### Learning Outcomes:

To enable the students understand the roles of the various people involved in a court case. (In this module we are focusing only on a criminal trial).

### Aims:

- To explain the role of the participants in a criminal court case
- To enable the students to recognise the typical seating arrangements in a courtroom
- To help the students learn more about the role of each participant with a view to assigning roles at a later stage for a class mock-trial

### Resources:

- 'Who's who...' poster.
- *Let's look at the law* video - Introduction and Lesson 1 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BdChQUVOv-Q> (5 minutes.)
- Student Resource webpage at <https://www.courts.ie/whos-who-0>

### Key Questions:

- Who would you expect to see in a courtroom?
- What is the job of the barrister / solicitor / judicial assistant / juror etc.?

**Duration: 35 minutes**

**Introduction: (5 minutes)**

The students engage in a class discussion of who they might expect to see in a courtroom.

### Development: (25 minutes)

- ♦ Class watch *Let's look at the law* video - Introduction and Lesson 1.
- ♦ Divide class into discussion groups. Give a blank 'Who's who...' poster to each group. Have them fill it out by naming each court user and explaining their purpose in the courtroom.
- ♦ Each group appoints a spokesperson to explain their answers.
- ♦ The teacher uses the 'Who's who ...' poster, reads the description of each role and points out where students gave accurate answers and where some mistakes were made.
- ♦ Teacher uses the relevant sections of the *Let's look at the law* video - Lesson 1 to illustrate the roles of the various people in the courtroom and to show them in action. The Student Resource webpage can be utilised.

### Closure: (5 minutes)

Class should take quiz from student resource page (available online or as a download) and hold brief discussion relating to the events seen on the video and the qualities necessary for each role.