

Protecting Human Rights (60-90 minutes)

Learning outcomes

Students will have the opportunity to:

- Learn which human rights are legally protected in the UK, and how they have developed over time.
- Understand how our human rights are protected by the courts.
- Understand that the UKSC is the highest domestic court of appeal, in most instances.
- Gain an awareness of recent UKSC cases and what a technical 'point of law' is.

Success Criteria	Activity (& approx times)	Resources
To be able to describe what our human rights are. To be able to explain how the courts protect our human rights. Assess how cases taken by the Supreme Court protect individuals' human rights.	Distribute S1 and ask selected students to read each of the definitions to the rest of the class (10 mins) Each student writes down what they think their own human rights are (as many examples as they can). If necessary, prompt by asking what things they feel they are entitled to, which should be protected by law (10 mins)	List of definitions and quotations about human rights (S1)
	Invite feedback from class to compare responses, including why students think these rights are important to them (10 mins) Distribute S2 handout of human rights, taken from the Human Rights Act 2000 Prompt class discussion about which rights are surprising, which rights students think should be included but are not (10 mins)	List of Human Rights (S2)

Prompt secondary discussion by asking which rights might conflict with others on the list. Can students think of examples of high-profile court cases where there has been a tension between two or more rights?

Do students think that everyone is entitled to these rights, or should we lose some of those rights if we commit a serious crime?

a serious crime?
What about if we fail to pay our taxes?
(10 mins)

Distribute information sheets on The Supreme Court and the European Convention on Human Rights, for students to read in their own study time

(S3, S4)

Distribute the case details sheet (S5) on the ban on hunting with foxes; the Naomi Campbell privacy case; cultural dress in schools; and the homosexual asylum seekers. The UKSC discusses 'points of law' - what human rights points of law are these cases looking at? (15 mins)

Feedback answers (5 mins)

You may find it helpful to prepare copies of a recent media story about a human rights case (e.g. disputed deportation of a foreign criminal)

The Supreme Court and the European Convention on Human Rights (S3); Why is it important we have a Supreme Court? (S4)

Set of case details (S5)

Answers can be found on T2