

Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service

11th April 2011

Laganside Mock Trial Competition

Bloomfield Collegiate crowned Laganside Mock Trial Champions for 2nd year running.

On Saturday 9th April Laganside Courts played host to the Annual Magistrates Mock Trial Competition for the 6th successful year. Ten schools across the province participated in this year's heat in a bid to become winner in this national competition.

Each team prepared for two mock trials and competed against each other, with one team prosecuting and the other defending. The performances were assessed by a Magistrate Judge and other legal professionals.

This competition provides young people with an exciting and innovative insight into the workings for the legal system. It provides key stage three students with the opportunity to perform vital roles within a courtroom environment such as magistrates, barristers, witnesses, jurors, court staff and defendants.

Bloomfield Collegiate School will now travel to Birmingham Magistrates' Court to participate in the 2010/2011 National Final which is scheduled to take place on Saturday 18 June 2011.

Notes to Editor

1. Schools which participated included;

- Saint Patrick's High School
- Victoria College
- St Dominic's Grammar School
- Portora Royal School
- Limavady Grammar School
- Grosvenor Grammar School
- Bloomfield Collegiate School
- Dalriada High School
- Oakgrove Integrated School
- Foyle and Londonderry College

2. The Magistrates' Court Mock Trial Competition is organised in partnership with the Magistrates' Association and sponsored by Her Majesty's Court Service, an executive agency of the Ministry of Justice.

3. Now in its 17th successful year, the Magistrates' Court Mock Trial Competition gives young people an exciting and innovative opportunity to discover how and why laws are made. Each year it involves 4,500 young people throughout England, Wales and Northern Ireland, and 800 magistrates and other legal professionals.

4. For further information please visit www.citizenshipfoundation.org.uk

5. If you have any further enquiries about this or other court related matters please contact:

Press Team
Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service
Laganside House
23-27 Oxford Street
Belfast
BT1 3LA
DD - 02890 412284