

## SOCIAL SCIENCES – CURRICULUM INTENT

### ASPIRE – CHALLENGE – ACHIEVE

The Social Sciences department aims to provide a foundation for the scientific understanding of both individual and societal behaviours. We work to develop lifelong skills and understanding in order for students to appreciate different perspectives and think holistically regarding the reasons why we, and others in society behave the way that we do. Students are supported throughout the duration of the course and are encouraged to achieve through aspirational target grades and departmental intervention.

By considering both biological and environmental factors, students are able to understand and develop key abilities required in the subjects. As a department we regularly review and recap learning and students are able to apply what they have learnt to the wider society with research projects and investigations. Since the introduction of both Psychology and Sociology at GCSE level, students have the opportunity to begin their journey earlier, and are able to investigate new psychological and sociological concepts and start to develop their skills of extended writing, evaluation and time management whilst studying independently, all of which will prepare them for successful future study within the Social Science department, across the whole school and beyond.

As social scientists we aim to encourage students to question everything and to be able to critically evaluate theories and methods of investigation. These evaluative skills are used throughout the course and assessed regularly and encourage students to think critically about the world around them.

Students are invited to attend additional intervention sessions to ensure they receive the support to enable them to develop key skills that can be used across the curriculum. A high standard of communication is encouraged and is fundamental to the achievement of students – reading of external sources and understanding both psychological and sociological research is a key area of study that we encourage.

By introducing students to the world around them and encouraging them to think about why we think and behave in the way that we do, it is our mission to evoke a passion for studying the Social Sciences further at higher education.

### SOCIAL SCIENCES: WIDER CURRICULUM *(Covid dependent)*

KS4	KS5
<b>Magistrates Court Yr 11/13 Sociology Crime and Deviance Potential visit to Peterborough Prison Sociologist/Psychologist of the term</b>	<b>Zoolab Visit – Phobias London Zoo – Phobias Potential visit to Peterborough Prison Sociologist/Psychologist of the term</b>
Discussion of current news articles / relevant documentaries / TV programmes Lunch & after school intervention / Easter & May holiday revision sessions <i>See separate Curriculum Intervention &amp; SMSC Audits for contributions from Social Sciences too detailed to list here</i>	

# PSYCHOLOGY

In year 12 and 13 students are initially introduced to the key Psychological approaches which provide a detailed insight into the key ideas and Psychologists throughout the course. Each psychological approach is referenced throughout the two year course and a key introduction to this at the start of year 12 ensures that students have an understanding of the ‘founding fathers’ of Psychology as well as their beliefs about our behaviour.

Research methods is taught parallel to these topics as the understanding and ideas can be used to critically evaluate research throughout the course. The year 13 optional topics are chosen specifically as they embed much of the earlier knowledge and understanding but students have to be able to apply these theories and ideas to the new topics. Issues and Debates are taught at the start of year 13 as the skills that students develop in this topic are vital to the critical analysis in the extended writing exam requirements at the end of the course.

	Cognition and Behaviour – GCSE Paper 1		Psychology in Context - A Level Paper 2
	Social Context and Behaviour - GCSE Paper 2		Issues and Options in Psychology - A Level Paper 3
	Introductory Topics in Psychology - A Level Paper 1		Psychological Research Methods examined across all papers

Key Stage 4	10	Research Methods			Perception		Development		
		Memory							
	11	Social Influence	Language, Thought & Communication	Brain & Neuropsychology	Psychological Problems	REVISION	GCSE EXAMS		
<i>At the end of the year 11 course students will be expected to have an understanding of the psychological content covered over the past two years as well as being able to apply these concepts to a range of contexts. Students will also have developed skills of critical analysis and be able to evaluate the theories, research studies and research methods that have been used. Following the completion of this course students should be confident in designing and evaluating their own psychological research including interpreting and analysing the findings.</i>									
Key Stage 5	12	Approaches	Social Influence	Attachment	Memory	Psychopathology	REVISION	AS EXAMS	Biopsychology
		Research Methods	Research Methods	Research Methods	Research Methods	Research Methods			
	13	Issues and Debates	Relationships	Schizophrenia	Aggression	Research Methods	REVISION	A2 EXAMS	
<i>At the end of the A Level course, students will be expected to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of a range of psychological concepts, theories, research studies and methods as well as the ethical issues involved, this includes developing a critical analysis and evaluation of these topic areas. Students will also be expected to apply their knowledge to a range of contexts and provide a critical analysis of research including theories, therapies and psychological approaches. Students will also have the skills involved to design and conduct their own research as well as analysing and interpreting the data.</i>									

## SOCIOLOGY

Students are introduced to the key theorists and perspectives early in Year 10 and their ideas towards Education and Families and Households, these ideas underpin much of the two-year course. In Year 12 and 13 students are reintroduced to these ideas and are able to use these to formulate beliefs and understanding of these topics from different sociological perspectives.

Research Methods is another topic that is taught and then repeated throughout the course and students are examined on their understanding of Sociological Research Methods regularly. Students are also given the opportunity to apply their knowledge and understanding of these Research Methods to Education specifically. Skills of evaluation and analysis are taught throughout the course and students are expected to be able to formulate their own ideas as well as applying the different perspectives and theorists to certain areas in the extended writing element of examination.

**Key** = Matching colours denote links between topics either in content or skills across Key Stages

	The Sociology of Families and Education - GCSE Paper 1		Topics in Sociology – A Level Paper 2
	The Sociology of Crime and Deviance and Social Stratification - GCSE Paper 2		Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods - A Level Paper 3
	Education with Theory and Methods – A Level Paper 1		Social Theory and Methodology is examined across all years

Key Stage 4	10	The Sociology of Education		The Sociology of Families		Crime and Deviance	
		Social Theory and Methodology		Social Theory and Methodology			
	11	Crime and Deviance		Social Theory and Methodology	REVISION	GCSE EXAMS	
		Social Stratification					
<p>At the end of the 2 year GCSE course students will have the ability to analyse and evaluate different research theories, studies and methods and apply their understanding of sociological topics to current social issues. Students should be able to draw connections between the different topic areas studied and create their own reasoned arguments and debates being able to draw their own conclusions and substantiated judgements through extended writing.</p>							
Key Stage 5	12	The Sociology of Education	The Sociology of Families and Households	Research Methods	REVISION	AS EXAMS	Theory and Methods
		Research Methods in Context					
	13	Beliefs in Society	Crime and Deviance	Research Methods	REVISION	A2 EXAMS	
		Theory and Methods					
<p>Throughout the A Level course, students must have a detailed understanding of sociological theories, perspectives and methods in addition to their own understanding of research methods including the strengths and limitations of these. Students should be able to make links through the different topics and be able to apply these to current social issues and policies and be able to critically evaluate the theories, perspectives and research methods used.</p>							

## SOCIAL STUDIES: SKILLS / KNOWLEDGE PROGRESSION BY THEMES

	Knowledge	Application of knowledge; <i>Empirical Research</i>	Application; <i>Novel scenarios</i>	Application; <i>Create your own study</i>	Evaluation; <i>Research Methods /I&amp;D /Approaches Real world application</i>	Extended Writing	Mathematical Skills
GCSE	<p>Students are required to be able to identify key points and knowledge of all areas covered in Psychology including Memory, Perception, Cognitive Development, Social Influence, Brain &amp; Neuropsychology and Psychological Problems.</p> <p>In Sociology students cover the topics of Families, Education, Research Methods and Social Stratification and are expected to have a detailed knowledge of each of these topic areas.</p>	<p>In both Psychology and Sociology students are required to know key studies to support their knowledge of all topics throughout the course and be able to use these as evaluation. This is examined throughout the 2 papers across both subjects.</p>	<p>Students have to be able to answer questions based on a novel scenario reflecting on their knowledge of key psychological understanding.</p> <p>In Sociology there are extended answers that require students to apply their knowledge to a novel scenario or 'item'. Application is assessed in these questions.</p>	<p>Yr 11 – In Psychology, students have to be able to describe how they would investigate a particular issue replicating a previous well known study as the basis to create their own.</p>	<p>Students have to be able to critically evaluate research and/or theories using empirical evidence specifically in 9 mark extended writing answers in Psychology and 12 mark extended answers in Sociology.</p>	<p>Students have to be able to compile a balanced argument using critical analysis of sources and theories in both Psychology and Sociology.</p> <p>The mark breakdown in Psychology is AO1 – 4 and AO2/3 - 5</p>	<p>In Psychology, students have to be able to identify appropriate measures of central tendency and calculate these.</p>

<p><b>Year 12</b></p>	<p>Students are required to be able to identify key points and knowledge of all areas covered in Psychology and have an understanding of Memory, Social Influence, Attachment, Research Methods, Approaches and Psychopathology.</p> <p>Topics in year 12 Sociology include Families, Education, Research Methods and Education with Methods in Context.</p>	<p>Students are required to know key studies to support their knowledge of all topics throughout the course and be able to use these as evaluation. This is examined throughout the 2 papers in both Psychology and Sociology.</p>	<p>Students have to be able to apply their knowledge to a novel scenario e.g. how the process of minority influence might affect recycling behaviour (6m).</p> <p>In Sociology, students will regularly be asked to apply their knowledge and understanding to an 'item' and marks are awarded for the application of knowledge.</p>	<p>Yr 12 – In Psychology Paper 2, Research Methods section, students have to suggest improvements to studies and be able to justify why these improvements might be made.</p>	<p>Students have to be able to use alternative approaches or models to critically evaluate research and/or theories as well as the relevance to real world application specifically in 12m extended writing answers.</p> <p>In Sociology students are expected to critically evaluate research and theories using their knowledge of the Research Methods used particularly in the Education with Methods in Context section of the Paper.</p>	<p>Students have to be able to compile a balanced argument using critical analysis of sources and theories.</p> <p>The mark breakdown is AO1 – 6 and AO2/3 – 6.</p> <p>In Sociology students are expected to be able to write an extended balanced argument. Marks available for these question types is 10 / 20 or 30 marks.</p>	<p>In Psychology students have to be able to calculate one statistical test - the sign test by hand as well as calculating measures of central tendency.</p> <p>Students have to be able to identify the most appropriate measure and justify their decision.</p>
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## Year 13

Students are required to be able to identify key points and knowledge of all areas covered in Psychology and have an understanding of the AS topics plus Relationships, Schizophrenia, Forensic Psychology and Issues & Debates

In Sociology students are required to be able to identify key points and knowledge of AS topics plus Crime & Deviance and Beliefs.

Students are required to know key studies to support their knowledge of all topics throughout the course and be able to include empirical evidence in their evaluation of topics. This is examined throughout the 3 papers in both Psychology and Sociology.

Yr 13 – 16 mark questions, 4 marks specifically applied to AO2 – application.

Students have to be able to apply their knowledge to a novel scenario e.g. how research into attachment might have economic implications.

In Sociology, students will regularly be asked to apply their knowledge and understanding to an 'item' and marks are awarded for the application of knowledge.

Yr 13 – Psychology Paper 2 Research Methods extended writing questions where students have to be able to design their own experiment and justify all decisions based on relevant research method knowledge.

Students have to be able to critically evaluate research and theories using alternative approaches as well as relevant psychological issues and debates specifically in 16m extended writing answers.

In Sociology students are expected to critically evaluate research and theories using their knowledge of the Research Methods used.

Students have to be able to compile a balanced argument using critical analysis of sources and theories.

The mark breakdown is AO1 – 6 and AO2/3 – 10

In Sociology students are expected to be able to write an extended balanced argument. Marks available for these question types is 10m/20m/30m.

In Psychology students have to be able to calculate and interpret statistical tests such as Spearman's Rho and Chi Squared; in addition to calculating measure of central tendency and dispersion.