



## SOCIOLOGY:

*‘Explore the society we live in and how it has shaped your and other people’s lives’*

Sociology teaches you to question the world around you and helps you understand the main factors that influence people’s behaviour. Students will learn how to look at society more critically and analytically. Students are encouraged to use current social issues as examples.

### **The skills that are developed by studying A level Sociology include:**

- Communication skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening
- Interpreting and evaluating different points of view
- Question assumptions about society and the rules by which we live our lives
- Examine how our experiences maybe different to others and may shape the choices and decisions that we make in our own lives



## KS5 Sociology Curriculum Overview (Year 12 & 13)

A level Sociology is studied in Years 12 and 13. We follow the AQA Specification which looks at analysing, interpreting and evaluating Sociological concepts and theories in relation to the topics listed below.

Sociology is the systematic study of society and the groups within it. It is about looking at the world you live in through a different lens to try and understand some of the problems and issues that face society and how society has changed through the generations. It is about looking at the experiences of different social groups and trying to understand their views and the structural causes of their experiences. Sociology is a good umbrella subject, meaning that it supports a number of careers and degree courses as one of the key skills of a sociologist is to look at the world in an objective and critical way.

### YEAR 12

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
TOPIC	Families and Households	Families and Households	Research Methods	Research Methods	Education	Education
KEY CONCEPTS	Social structure and social change, changing patterns of marriage structures gender roles, domestic labour and power relationships the nature of childhood demographic trends in the United Kingdom since 1900	Social structure and social change, changing patterns of marriage structures gender roles, domestic labour and power relationships the nature of childhood demographic trends in the United Kingdom since 1900	Sources of data, primary and secondary data, and between quantitative and qualitative data positivism, interpretivism and sociological methods theoretical, practical and ethical considerations modernity and post-modernity theory and methods debates Sociology and social policy	Sources of data, primary and secondary data, and between quantitative and qualitative data positivism, interpretivism and sociological methods theoretical, practical and ethical considerations modernity and post-modernity theory and methods debates Sociology and social policy	The role and functions of the education system, differential educational achievement relationships and processes within schools, the significance of educational policies the impact of globalisation on educational policy	The role and functions of the education system, differential educational achievement relationships and processes within schools, the significance of educational policies the impact of globalisation on educational policy
ASSESSMENT	Exam questions and essays	Exam questions and essays End of Unit Test	Exam questions and essays	Exam questions and essays End of Unit Test	Past Exam Papers PPE for Paper 1 (Internal Mock Exams)	Exam questions and essays End of Unit Test



## YEAR 13

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
TOPIC	Crime and deviance	Media	Media	Revision	A Level exams	
KEY CONCEPTS	<p>Crime, deviance, social order and social control gender and social class, including recent patterns and trends in crime globalisation and crime in contemporary society crime control, surveillance, prevention and punishment, victims, and the role of the criminal justice system and other agencies</p>	<p>New media and their significance for an understanding of the role of the media in contemporary society the relationship between ownership and control of the media globalisation and popular culture the processes of selection and presentation of the content of the news</p>	<p>Media representations of age, social class, ethnicity, gender, sexuality and disability the relationship between the media, their content and presentation, and audiences</p>			
ASSESSMENT	<p>Exam questions, essays End of topic test</p>	<p>Exam questions, essays End of topic test</p>	<p>Exam questions PPE: Paper 3</p>	<p>Exam questions PPE: Paper 1 and Paper 2</p>	<p>Past Papers Analysing areas of improvement by going through papers</p>	<p>A level Exams</p>



## PSYCHOLOGY:

### **‘The science of mental processes and behaviour’**

Our overall aim is to develop our students’ critical thinking skills and understanding of the mind and behaviour. Students wishing to study Psychology are curious about both typical and atypical behaviour.

#### **The skills that are developed by studying A level Psychology include:**

- Communication skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening
- Interpreting and evaluating different points of view
- Apply their knowledge to a range of previously unseen scenarios
- Identify cross-curricular links across departments, eg with Maths and Science so we can improve students confidence interpreting data in Psychology and understanding the role of neurotransmitters and genes.



## KS5 Psychology Curriculum Overview (Year 12 & 13)

A level Psychology is studied in Years 12 and 13. We follow the AQA Specification which looks at analysing, interpreting and evaluating psychological concepts, theories, research studies, research methods and ethical issues in relation to the topics listed below as well as exploring and evaluating a range therapies and treatments in terms of their appropriateness and effectiveness.

Psychology is a great subject to study because it will not only give you a number of transferable skills, it will also teach you more about the way people think. An understanding of the human mind is useful in a number of careers as well as providing a gateway to further study of Psychology at University.

### YEAR 12

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
TOPIC	Social Influence and Memory	Social Influence and Memory	Attachment and Psychopathology	Approaches and Research Methods	Revision	Relationships and Biopsychology
KEY CONCEPTS	<p>Explore the types and explanations of conformity and obedience and reasons for resistance to social influence</p> <p>Critically analysing key research by Asch, Zimbardo and Milgram</p> <p>We explore the different memory stores and explanations for forgetting</p>	<p>Understanding of minority influence and how social change occurs</p> <p>Factors affecting Eyewitness Testimony, whilst critically analysing key studies and learn how memory can be improved</p>	<p>The stages and explanations of attachment. A key study; Mary Ainsworth's 'Strange Situation'.</p> <p>An overview of the effects of maternal deprivation as well as the influence of early attachments on adult relationships.</p> <p>The difficulty in defining abnormality as well as gaining insight into the causes of OCD, Depression and Phobias as well as evaluating the effectiveness of their treatments</p>	<p>The origins of Psychology as well as an overview of the five main approaches in Psychology.</p> <p>Various research methods, scientific processes and techniques of data handling and analysis and learn their strengths and limitations</p>	<p>We explore Graphs and tables, The Peer review process and The Economy</p>	<p>Factors affecting attraction</p> <p>Analyse theories of romantic relationships</p> <p>The Nervous System, the brain and ways of studying it</p> <p>Biological rhythms</p>
ASSESSMENT	Exam questions	Exam questions End of topic tests	Exam questions End of topic tests	Exam questions End of topic tests	Past Exam Papers PPE for Paper 1 (Internal Mock Exams)	PPE for Paper 2 (Internal Mock Exams)



## YEAR 13

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
TOPIC	Relationships and Forensic	Eating Behaviour and Forensic Psychology	Eating behaviour, Issues and Debates and Research Methods	Research Methods and Revision	Revision	
KEY CONCEPTS	<p>Theories into Romantic relationships as well as virtual relationships and parasocial relationships</p> <p>Offender profiling and discuss biological explanations of offending behaviour as well as effective ways of dealing with it</p>	<p>Explanations for food preferences, neural and hormonal mechanisms involved in eating</p> <p>Biological and psychological explanations for anorexia nervosa and obesity</p> <p>Psychological explanations of offending behaviour as well as effective ways of dealing with it</p>	<p>Gender and culture in Psychology, Free will and Determinism, Holism and reductionism, Idiographic and nomothetic approaches, the nature/nurture debate</p> <p>Research methods, scientific processes and techniques of data handling and analysis, their use and their strengths and limitations</p>	<p>Dealing with data 2</p> <p>Reliability and validity 2</p> <p>Inferential testing and get familiar with the use of inferential tests</p> <p>Writing psychological reports</p> <p>Practical research project</p>		
ASSESSMENT	<p>Exam questions</p> <p>End of topic test</p>	<p>Exam questions</p> <p>End of topic test</p>	<p>Exam questions</p> <p>PPE: Paper 3</p>	<p>Exam questions</p> <p>PPE: Paper 1 and Paper 2</p>	<p>Past Papers</p> <p>Analysing areas of improvement by going through papers</p>	<p>A Level Exams</p>