

Social Sciences Department

The Social Sciences department was formed in 2004. The popularity of Sociology, Psychology and more recently Politics at St. Joseph's College is evident in the enthusiasm and determination of the students taking these subjects.

There are currently five Psychology, three Sociology, and two Politics teaching groups in the Sixth Form. In 2011 we successfully introduced Politics to the curriculum, and whilst the number of students is lower than the other two subjects, the commitment and drive of the students makes this a hugely important subject for us to deliver.

Each A level group receives ten hours of teaching over the course of a two week timetable. Teaching groups are normally shared by two teachers.

The department follows the AQA specification for all three subjects.

Topics studied:

	Sociology	Politics	Psychology
A level year 1 ↓ A level year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Education & Methods• Families & Households• Mass Media• Crime & Deviance• Theory & Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Governing Modern Britain• US Government & Politics• Political Ideologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Memory• Social influence• Attachment• Psychopathology• Biopsychology• Approaches• Research methods• Issues & debates• Relationships• Eating behaviour• Forensic psychology

Many students who study Social Sciences go on to study related subjects at university. Analysis of departmental results against ALPS data indicate that most students achieve expected progress and many achieve above expected progress.

Members of the department are experienced A level teachers who value learning for its own sake, not just for instrumental reasons and are committed to an ethos of self-review and improvement.
