Psychology and Sociology

Statement of intent

The social science department believes that each learner's journey is unique and therefore aims to consider the diverse ways students interact with and accumulate knowledge. Our curriculum design is both program and process centred; this design helps to create an atmosphere for co-learning and encourages students to be ambitious. Flexibility in the curriculum design also allows us to embed inclusion into our teaching practice which ensure that learners who have been minoritised, identified as disadvantaged, or have SEND needs are authentically catered for and celebrated. Learning is sequenced to bridge gaps in a student's prior knowledge, whilst also considering the cumulatively sufficient knowledge and skills they will need for future learning and employment.

Our curriculum intent is geared towards supporting students to seamlessly transition into the next phase of life; taking a faith-inspired, virtues-led approach to delivering each topic helps to achieve this. For example, students are encouraged to explore complex questions which includes, is love or hate a choice? And what role does free-will play in individual and collective worship? These questions, coupled with curriculum enriched trips, visits and experiences is helping learners build the cultural capital needed to successfully navigate life in an increasingly pluralist world.

It is our intention to encourage each learner to strive for excellence, particularly in their ability to articulate knowledge in a clear and coherent manner. Therefore, students are given the tools to read for meaning, analyse and evaluate their knowledge and draw evidence-based conclusions. This broad and balanced approach to learning and teaching is prioritised to allow pupils to access the full curriculum offer. By the end of the course learners will achieve excellence by demonstrating their ability to critical examine contemporary social processes, evaluate a range of research methods through active involvement in the research process and showcase skills that will enable them to become responsible global citizens.