

Psychology

Exam Board: AQA

Subject Leader: Mrs A Sandhal

What do I need?

Psychology is only taught in the sixth form, therefore ideas and concepts will be unfamiliar. Since 2009 Psychology has been designated as a science subject, therefore students need to be able to tackle scientific concepts and use analytical skills. The course includes aspects of Science (particularly Biology) and Maths in topics such as research methods. Students should be self-motivated, disciplined and ready to explore new and stimulating ideas.

You should be confident in Maths, Science and English as the qualification has:

- **Rigorous scientific subject – same assessment objectives used as Biology, Chemistry and Physics from 2016.**
- **25% of the A level assessment consists of research methods, 15% of assessment is on Mathematics.**
- **Essay writing and analytical skills: all exam papers include essay questions requiring scientific knowledge to be thoroughly described and analysed using facts and evidence to structure arguments.**

You should be able to work independently. You should be a confident reader able to read textbooks for information and write detailed but concise answers in exams. You will need to develop the ability to present ideas, supported by evidence, in structured, effective essays and you will need good time management skills.

What will I learn?

Students study material which is examined in three papers:

Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology

This covers four of the major areas of psychology, namely social influence (which covers topics such as obedience and conformity), memory, attachment (which covers the relationship between a child, its mother and other caregivers, such as the impact upon the child of attending nursery) and psychopathology (which covers the application of psychological theory to the explanation and treatment of mental health problems).

Paper 2: Psychology in Context

This covers the major approaches in psychology (for example the work of the behaviourists, Freudian psychology, etc). It also covers the importance of biopsychological ideas to explaining human behaviour. The research methods commonly used in psychology is also a focus of this paper, although students should note that the theme of research runs through all areas of the course.

Paper 3: Issues and Options in Psychology

This covers issues and debates in psychology, such as the nature v nurture debate and the gender / cultural biases present in psychological research and theory. It also covers three option topics of Aggression, Gender and schizophrenia.

How will I be assessed?

All three examination papers are 2 hours in duration and use a range of question styles, including multiple choice, short answer questions and extended writing.

Is there anything else I need to know?

Psychology is taught as a Science and as such is a useful subject to combine with other Science subjects. It can also fit well with any of the other Social Science subjects; Sociology and Health and Social Care. A-level Psychology can lead to a wide range of career possibilities including careers in Clinical Psychology, Criminal Psychology, Business Management, Education, Health, Sports and Research.

Sociology

Exam Board: AQA

Subject Leader: Mrs A Sandhal

What is Sociology?

Sociology is the study of society. It is about all kinds of social relationships that people share with each other; in their families, in their schools and in work. It involves the systematic study and explanation of human social life, groups and societies. Sociologists aim to investigate and understand the social world and human behaviour within it. They are particularly interested in understanding the ways in which society influences us and shapes our lives.

In studying sociology, you will be actively involved in exploring and asking questions about the society in which you live. Studying sociology offers you opportunities to gain a greater understanding of society and to make sense of your own experiences within it. Sociology can be both thought provoking and challenging because it forces people to rethink some of their common-sense views and assumptions.

Social theory is important in Sociology. It teaches us that there are no right or wrong answers when it comes to studying the way that people live together. What is important for a sociologist is the ability to evaluate evidence and choose between possible explanations.

What do I need?

Good grades in English language and literature are helpful when considering studying sociology, but the most important qualification is a sense of commitment and a willingness to work hard at a subject, which can sometimes be difficult to grasp at first.

If you're the type of person who can handle working at a demanding pace, who's not afraid to see the world in a different light and who wants to look deeper into the things we take for granted every day, then sociology is the subject for you!

- **You should be confident in English as there are many essay-based questions to answer in your exam.**
- **You may also benefit from studying a humanities subject such as RE and philosophy, Geography and History as some of the knowledge is cross-curricular.**

You should be able to work independently. You should be a confident reader able to read textbooks for information and write detailed but concise answers in exams. You will need to develop the ability to present ideas, supported by evidence, in structured, effective essays and you will need good time management skills.

What will I learn?

Students study material which is examined in three papers:

Paper 1: Education with Theory and Methods

Paper 2: Topics in Sociology

Paper 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

How will I be assessed?

All three examination papers are 2 hours in duration and equally contribute to 33.3% of your final A Level Sociology mark. The examinations contain both short and extended writing questions.

Is there anything else I need to know?

Sociology is a great if you enjoy literacy, writing essays and debating ideas and considering different viewpoints. It really is a contemporary subject which we are involved in! It can help equip you for further studying and careers in Law, Politics, Health and Social Care and social research for government agencies.

NCFE CACE Level 2 Award in Child Development and Care

Exam Board:

CACHE

Course description

This qualification is aimed at a range of learners who wish to be introduced to childcare and development for children aged 0-5 years. It provides the opportunity to gain a vocational qualification that gives a basic introduction to the sector. It includes the knowledge and understanding of child development and well-being necessary when preparing for working with children in a variety of settings. It also gives learners an insight into their preferred learning styles and assists in developing their ability to study.

This qualification will enable learners to develop significant transferable knowledge and study skills that will support progression including:

- an awareness of learning styles
- a basic introduction in to working with children in a variety of settings
- an understanding of roles and responsibilities when working in a setting
- an understanding of Equality and Diversity within a childcare setting
- a basic understanding of the stages and sequence of child development
- an introduction to observing children and how it supports development
- an introduction to the influences that affect holistic development
- an introduction to everyday care routines and the types of activities that can support the development of independence an introduction to supporting children through transition.

Assessment

The qualification consists of 3 units:

Unit 1	An introduction to working with children aged 0-5 years	Assessment task (coursework)
Unit 2	Development and well-being 0-5 years	Assessment task (coursework)
Unit 3	Child care and development 0-5 years	External question paper (exam)

CACHE Level 2 Award in Child Development and Care (NQF) (VRQ) will be awarded at grades A* - D. For each of Unit 1 and Unit 2, you will be given 5 assignments. Each assignment covers a Learning Outcome that includes one or more Assessment Tasks. Each Assessment Task is graded at A* - D. Completing each task allows you to obtain points that eventually will be totalled up to give you your end grade. You must pass the exam in order to grade in the qualification.

Future opportunities

Studying child development can help you on your way to a career in the caring professions; child care, social work, paediatric care, midwifery, early learning and primary school services.

When should I take this subject?

Students can take this as a GCSE optional qualification.

Other information

This course is academically demanding as assessment is continuous. You need strong literacy skills as all of the work is written-based including the exam. The exam covers a wide area of knowledge.

Additionally, during the course of the year (September – April) students will carry out work experience placements in lesson time. This will be done on rotation basis (sending 4 students from each class a week to spend approximately 1 ½ hours at The Old School House Nursery (Fulwood, Sheffield). Each student will probably visit the nursery at least twice over the duration of this time. This is a valuable experience and will support the development of student knowledge in relation to coursework assessment and exam application.

OCR Cambridge National Level 1/2 Award Health and Social Care

Course description

This course is equivalent to one GCSE. Health and Social Care gives you an insight and understanding about how and why people use various services in the health and social care sector. You will study the different client groups such as Early Years, Adulthood and Later Adulthood.

How will I be assessed and what will I learn?

Health and Social Care is assessed through both coursework and exam.

Level 1/2 Award Health and Social Care:

This course is designed for learners who have an interest in health and social care and wish to develop skills and learn the theory that can prepare them for further study and employment within this sector.

There are four modules; an exam module and three pieces of coursework. Each module is worth 25%.

Course outline

Year	UNIT	OVERVIEW	HOW IT IS ASSESSED
Year 1	R031: Using basic first aid procedures	This unit will provide learners with a knowledge and understanding of basic common first aid procedures that could be used within health and social care settings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internally assessed (Coursework) 25% of the qualification
+			
Year 1	R021: Essential values of care for use with individuals in care settings Mandatory unit	This unit focuses on the rights of individuals and will instil the values of care to be used when working in a health, social care or early years environment. All good practice is based on these values and enables those who use and work in care settings to apply quality practice. The unit also provides an overview of legislation and its impact on the care settings and covers the hygiene, safety and security matters that relate to promoting a healthy and safe environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Externally assessed (Written exam) 25% of the qualification
+			

Year 2	R022: Communicating and working with individuals in health, social care and early years settings Mandatory unit	This unit will provide learners with the underpinning knowledge and understanding of how to communicate effectively and what personal qualities will contribute to the creation of a caring environment when working with individuals in a health, social care and early years setting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internally assessed (Coursework) • 25% of the qualification
+			
Year 2	R027: Creative activities to support individuals in health, social care and early years settings	In this unit learners will have the opportunity to explore the different types of creative activities that are available to individuals in health, social care and early years settings. They will understand how important it is to promote creative activities, so that the needs of the individuals are met as well as ensuring that those involved enjoy the experience and gain personal value from participating.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internally assessed (Coursework) • 25% of the qualification

Future opportunities:

Studying Health and Social Care can open the door for a career in the caring and medical professions; social care, teaching, nursing and midwifery amongst others.

When should I take this subject?

Students can take this as a GCSE optional qualification.

Other information

During the second year of the course (September – April) students will carry out work experience placements in lesson time. This will be done on rotation basis (sending 4 students from each class a week to spend approximately 1 ½ hours at Old School House Nursery (Fulwood, Sheffield). Each student will probably visit the nursery at least twice over the duration of this time. This is a valuable experience and will support the development of student knowledge in relation to coursework and exam application.

This course is academically demanding as assessment is continuous and the exam covers a wide area of knowledge. You will need to have strong English and literacy skills to meet the demands of the coursework portfolios. You should be able to meet deadlines.

Level 3 Health and Social Care (Certificate and Extended Certificate)

Exam Board: OCR Cambridge Technical

Subject Leader: Mrs A Sandhal

What do I need?

This course is designed to integrate practical work-related learning with theoretical application. If you are interested in a career in Nursing, Social Work, Care, Early Years sector or other health and social related professions then this course is a fantastic choice! Our range of work placements offer students invaluable opportunities to gain real life experience with working with people within the different sectors of care.

What do I need?

You should be a student who:

- Has a good record of meeting deadlines so that you do not fall behind with coursework
- Is interested in working with people in a caring or teaching role
- Enjoys learning more about yourself and people around you
- Can research independently to produce assignments of a very high standard
- Shows commitment to written tasks and therefore has a strong written skills
- Has a natural caring attitude towards others showing patience, tolerance and respect
- Enjoys discussion and practical, student centred learning

Please note that you should be confident with biology as there is a 2 hour exam in Year 13 about Anatomy and Physiology. This counts towards 25% of the course grade.

What will I learn?

The Level 3 Health and Social Care course looks at the Health, Social Care and Early Years sectors. The course provides knowledge and understanding needed for careers working with people such as teaching, nursing, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, social work, police and many others in health and social care.

Units covered:-

In Year 12 you will cover three mandatory units:

Unit 1: Building Positive Relationships in Health and Social Care

Unit 2: Diversity and Rights in Health and Social Care
 Unit 3: Health, Safety and Security in Health and Social Care

In Year 13 you will cover one mandatory unit and two further optional units:

Unit 4: Anatomy and Physiology for Health and Social Care
 Unit 17: Supporting people with mental health conditions
 Unit 24: Public Health

How will I be assessed?

Assessment is approximately **60% examination and 30% coursework.**

Health and Social Care course structure

	Year 1 Units	Assessment	Points value
These three units will complete the Level 3 Certificate (equivalent to one AS Level)	Unit 1: Building Positive Relationships in Health and Social Care	Coursework	60
	Unit 2: Diversity and Rights in Health and Social Care	Exam	60
	Unit 3: Health, Safety and Security in Health and Social Care	Exam	60
	Year 2 Units	Assessment	Points value
These three units will complete the Level 3 Extended Certificate (equivalent to one A-Level)	Unit 4: Anatomy and Physiology for Health and Social Care	Exam	90
	Unit 17: Supporting people with mental health conditions	Coursework	60
	Unit 24: Public Health	Coursework	30

Is there anything else I need to know?

This subject combines well with subjects such as English Language and other Social Science subjects such as Sociology and Psychology as well as Biology as 25% is assessed on the Human Body. Past students have gone on to study apprenticeships or gone to university. They have followed programmes in nursing, teaching, early years, social sciences, youth work and special needs teaching. Some have been employed in Health and Social Services working at all different levels from health or social care assistant, to advisory and management roles. For further information see www.ocr.co.uk Cambridge Technical Level 3 in Health and Social Care 2016 Suite. Also see www.surestart.co.uk, www.bbc.co.uk/health/, www.communitycare.co.uk.