



Woodkirk Academy



Sociology and Psychology



How we Identify MAA in MFL

Those with high ability or potential in sociology and psychology are identified by the staff who teach them, liaising other specialist teaching staff and through analysing the work that they carry out throughout the year. These students may easily grasp the concepts that they study, are able to apply these concepts thoughtfully to real-life situations, set high standards for their work and are able to work independently. With both subjects, students will also have exceptional curiosity and constantly want to know 'why?'

How we identify UA in Sociology and Psychology

A secondary school student is considered to be Upper Ability if the average level he/she achieved in his/her Key Stage 2 English and Mathematics SATs is Level 5 or above. Year 7 students who completed the new Key Stage 2 exams in 2016 have been identified using an equivalent measure.

Skills

High ability in sociology and psychology can take time to emerge because the nature of the subject can often require maturity and experience. However, even younger students can display a marked interest and enthusiasm for these subjects that will develop into high performance as they mature over the course of the subject.

Within KS4 Sociology, higher level skills are dependent on the ability to analyse and evaluate. In KS5, these skills are developed further with the additional challenge of applying their knowledge. This is also the same for KS5 Psychology.

Strategies for Success

Upper Ability (UA) students in health and social care will be stretched and challenged using a variety of tasks such as...

- 'Super-learner' / 'Mastery Zone' tasks that will require students to reflect, enquire, empathise, assess or evaluate in depth. Ensure that these tasks are being completed.

- Buddying up and peer teaching to explain difficult concepts to other students. This will allow students to cement their knowledge and also develop their communication and leadership skills.
- 'Responding in red' to the teachers' feedback is crucial to success in sociology and psychology.

Students will regularly develop their own exam questions and mark schemes.

Challenges for UA in MFL and how to overcome these

Challenge	Overcome
Writing sufficient details in extended writing pieces to enable student to access higher mark band.	See exemplar material of what an A* answer looks like. This can be provided by the teacher. Also, make sure that effective 'responding in red' is completed on feedback.
Developing application and evaluation skills	Underline key words and new contexts then brainstorm what you know about each to find a link.
Applying knowledge to real life scenarios.	Watching specialist documentaries can really put knowledge into perspective. Also, regularly reading newspapers, reports, adding context from evidence of studies in applying knowledge can overcome this challenge.
Developing resilience	In sociology and psychology, we encourage students to make mistakes. This is an effective way of overcoming a 'no-can do' attitude. Students are also encouraged to make use of the stuck menu to assist them.

How can Parents Help?

There are many way which parents can help their son/daughter with their studies in Sociology and Psychology. These can be general things such as:

- Timing students doing mock exams. These can be found by following the links below:
Sociology KS4 (Current year 10/11): <http://filestore.aqa.org.uk/subjects/AQA-4190-W-SP-14.PDF> for the specification and past papers.
Sociology GCSE for AQA P Wilson and Allan Kidd; Collins; ISBN; 13 9780007310708
Sociology KS4 (Current year 9):
<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/gcse/sociology-8192>

Sociology KS5: <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/as-and-a-level/sociology-7191-7192>

Psychology KS5: <http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-a-level-gce-psychology-h167-h567-from-2015/>

- Encouraging students to take an interest in the world around them i.e. watching the news, reading newspapers, visiting museums for example the Slavery museum in Liverpool
- For students in KS5, it is really important to encourage your son/daughter to do at least 4/5 hours of independent studying outside of lesson time.
- Students can also access revision books and revision checklists from their teachers to assist with revision.