

Plymstock Social Sciences Department

The Social Sciences Department at Plymstock School consists of experienced practitioners who via high expectations and a passion for their subject strive to inspire students to develop a love for learning and an analytical view of the world around them.

At present there are two full time teachers of Social Sciences. The department is currently involved with delivering teaching at Key Stage 5 only. The Social Sciences Department at Plymstock School includes psychology, criminology and sociology. It is housed in the ECO block and the classrooms are extremely well designed and equipped with climate control, windows PC with Microsoft Office 365, overhead projector and a visualiser. The faculty has a work room for staff members and a computer suite housing 30 computers.

Psychology

This is the one of the most popular advanced level subjects at the school and there are currently two classes in year 12 and two classes in year 13. The students who opt to study psychology are very enthusiastic and a significant number of them go on to study psychology at university. The students receive ten hours of psychology per fortnight. High expectations are made of the students and we use regular assessments to inform planning and differentiation and to ensure that the students are meeting their targets. Students follow the AQA specification. In year 12 the students study Memory, Attachment, Psychopathology, Biopsychology, Approaches and Research Methods. In year 13 the students study Issues and Debates, Research Methods, Schizophrenia, Addiction and Relationships.

Criminology

This is fast becoming one of the most popular post 16 subject at the school. There are currently two classes in year 12 and two criminology classes in year 13. We study the WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology. Students receive ten hours of lessons per fortnight. Students are given the opportunity to visit the wider workings of the criminal justice system, including the courts and prisons, and we invite many external speakers in to discuss their roles. Many of our students have gone on the work as prison officers, the police and to study criminology at university.

Sociology

This is another popular advanced level subject at the school and many of the students go on to study this at university. There is currently one class in year 12 and one class in year 13. Students have ten hours of lessons per fortnight. We follow the AQA Specification and the topic areas we study are Education, Families and Households, Research Methods, The Media, Crime and Deviance and Theory and Methods.