

Sixth Form Courses

A level Sociology

Why take this subject?

Sociology is an interesting subject that enables you to question and understand the society in which we live. It is a contemporary subject that is relevant to your life. You will develop your research, literacy and communication skills, which are vital in further education and in the workplace.

What do I need to have studied at GCSE?

You must have at least 5 A*-B Grades at GCSE including English and Maths. Students who have studied Sociology at GCSE should have achieved at least a B grade. GCSE Sociology is not a requirement for the course but students will be considered depending on their English and Humanities results.

What will we study?

Socialisation, culture and identity

Section A of this exam investigates who we are as individuals, how we learn to become who we are and what influences there are on our formation of identity. The core elements of this unit are gender identity, ethnic identity, national identity, social class identity, disability and sexuality and identity. **Section B** of this exam investigates the topic of the family. We look at different types of family and how they vary across different cultures. Students will investigate trends related to family life, the role of the family for its members and also for society. Students will also analyse the many relationships within different family structures.

Researching and understanding social inequalities

Section A of this exam focuses on research methods and the relationship between theory and methods in the context of sociological inequalities. **Section B** focuses on understanding social inequalities that exist between individuals and different groups within society. Students will explore the social inequalities that are visible in society related to social class, gender, ethnicity and age.

Debates in contemporary Society

Section A of this exam investigates globalisation and the digital social world. **Section B** investigates the topic of Crime and Deviance and considers who is most likely to commit crime and why. Students will weigh up the evidence and consider whether people are more likely to commit crime based on their social class or whether it possibly links to their ethnicity or gender. Students will also consider theoretical perspectives and whether what is reported to the public about crime is in fact accurate.

How will I be examined?

Assessment is 100% externally assessed and all exams are sat in May/June of the second year of study.

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Component 1: Socialisation, Culture and Identity - 1 hr 30 minutes (30%)

Component 2: Researching and understanding social inequalities – 2 hrs 15 minutes (35%)

Component 3: Debates in contemporary society – 2 hrs 15 minutes (35%)

What super curricular opportunities will be available to me?

There may be opportunities for sociological trips throughout the course to aid students in their studies.

What can this subject lead to?

The course will develop students' skills in investigation, analysis and communication giving them a good understanding of our society. Our aim is to prepare them for a wide range of university courses from Sociology, Law, or politics to Economics and Business. It can also prepare students for a variety of careers from police and social work to public relations.

By the end of the course students will be able to analyse the society around them, understand the world we live in and be able to discuss and debate their own opinions based on the knowledge and findings of others. They will also be able to write academic essays, which is how they will be assessed.