

# SOCIOLOGY - GCSE

## What is sociology?

Sociology is the study of society and life. GCSE sociology helps students to gain knowledge and understanding of key social structures, processes and issues through the study of families, education, crime and deviance and social stratification.

## What can I expect from the course?

The course content for this subject is as follows:

| Year 1                                                                                                                                                          | Year 2                                                                                                  |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The sociological approach</li> <li>- Sociological research methods</li> <li>- Families</li> <li>- Education</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Crime and deviance</li> <li>- Social stratification</li> </ul> |

Students will develop their analytical, assimilation and communication skills by comparing and contrasting perspectives on a variety of social issues, constructing reasoned arguments, making substantiated judgements and drawing reasoned conclusions.

Like psychology, sociology is a popular subject in the social sciences department where students enjoy learning about the application of sociological concepts to current affairs and societal issues. The department provides an excellent bank of resources along with a range of effective teaching strategies that refine, stretch, and challenge our students' metacognitive abilities.

By studying sociology, students will develop transferable skills including how to:

- Investigate facts and make deductions;
- Develop opinions and new ideas on social issues;
- Analyse and better understand the social world.



Additionally, studying Sociology at KS4 allows students to form a strong basis for the subject in order to study it at KS5, should students wish to pursue the subject for A-level. Furthermore, being a social science, it facilitates the entry into **Russel Group** universities and opens multiple career options.

## Assessment

You will be assessed through two exams at the end of the two-year course.

| Paper 1: The sociology of families and education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Paper 2: The sociology of crime and deviance and social stratification                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
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| <p><b>What is assessed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The sociology of families</li> <li>• The sociology of education</li> <li>• Relevant areas of social theory and methodology</li> </ul> <p>Students will be expected to draw on knowledge and understanding of the entire course of study to show a deeper understanding of these topics.</p> | <p><b>What is assessed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The sociology of crime and deviance</li> <li>• The sociology of social stratification</li> <li>• Relevant areas of social theory and methodology</li> </ul> <p>Students will be expected to draw on knowledge and understanding of the entire course of study to show a deeper understanding of these topics.</p> |
| <p><b>How it is assessed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written exam: 1hour 45minutes</li> <li>• 100 marks</li> <li>• 50% of GCSE</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <p><b>How it is assessed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written exam: 1hour 45minutes</li> <li>• 100 marks</li> <li>• 50% of GCSE</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |