

# GCSE



Sociology is about developing a critical understanding of society. You will study how society shapes and affects our lives. Sociologists ask questions and conduct research to find the hidden truth. Sociology is a fascinating, engaging subject that is relevant to your life now & in the future. It will interest students who enjoy 'contemporary history' because you have to study the very recent past as well current day social processes to investigate human behaviour.

Students learn about Sociological theories (Marxism, Feminism, The New Right, Interactionism and Functionalism) and apply this understanding to current day topics within the **Family, Education, Crime and Social Stratification.**

# Frequently asked questions

## **What sorts of topics are studied with Family, Education, Crime and Social Stratification?**

Has same sex marriage affect the way we view society? Why are some families dysfunctional? Why has divorce risen so much in the last 50 years? Why do some ethnic groups do better at school than others? Does it matter that, nationally, girls do better than boys at school? What causes crime? What the crimes of big business? Why do people join gangs? Why is female crime rising? Who has the power in Society and why? Who are the underclass and how do they behave? Does the Government give people a hand up, a hand out or neither?

## **What else is studied?**

Sociological research - interviews, observations, questionnaires & the arguments around the use of these.

## **What careers does Sociology link to?**

Law, Policing, Social Work, Teaching, Journalism, Business & Marketing and many more

## **How will be assessed?**

There are two final exams, both 1 hour and 45 minutes long. Paper 1 is on Family & Education, Paper 2 is on Crime and Social Stratification

## **How much homework is there?**

60 - 90 minutes per week



# Student feedback (from current Year 12 & 13 who studied the GCSE)

*I loved the debates and I got a lot of support with revision, I felt really motivated to do well. It opened my eyes to the world, it taught me a lot about society. It broadened my horizons. It's made me think about my future a lot more and what career I'd like.*

*There was a lot of new terminology to understand but we used pictures and different ways of quizzing to learn a lot of content.*

*My writing style improved because the tasks we did verbally. We were shown excellent work which helped me to understand how to get higher grades.*

*It provided a lot of variety which made the lessons enjoyable.*

*I grew in confidence and it helped me recognise things I hadn't seen before. I learnt a lot about how to revise effectively.*

*We learnt something different every lesson and we were able to link the theories to real life and make links between the different topics.*

*I loved it, it gave me an understanding of what others go through in life. I have chosen it for A Level.*



**SOCIOLGY**