

# Sociology

**Qualification:** A-Level Sociology

**Additional Entry Information:**

Speak to **Mrs S Burnell** or **Ms L Bunce** for more information.

## **What do students need to know or be able to do before taking the course?**

Students will need to have good numerical and communication skills to study sociology. The course includes essays, questions with data-rich stimulus materials and survey sampling.

## **What will students learn on this course (skills and course content)?**

Students will develop an understanding of changing British society as well as sociological methods and research. The specification has a choice of topics that include families, youth culture, the community, education, religion, mass media, crime, politics, health and disability, social divisions and world sociology. The emphasis on skills allows learners to develop and demonstrate their 'sociological imagination' by focusing on their own personal identity, responsibilities and roles within society.

## **What sort of student is this course suitable for?**

Sociology suits students who take an interest in issues that impact on society as a whole such as those listed in the previous paragraph. There are no requirements for prior study but they may have enjoyed the human aspects of Geography and the elements of RE that reflect society.

## **What kind of work will students need to be able to do outside of lessons?**

As with any A-level, it will be important for students to keep up with coursework. Students will need to keep abreast of the news and be able to comment on how political decisions impact on society.

## **What is the course content and how is this assessed?**

### Year 12 AS

- Unit 1 - Acquiring Culture – Written Exam – one structured question on the key concepts and processes of cultural transmission, socialisation and the acquisition of identity and a choice between families or youth culture - 15%
- Unit 2 - Understanding Society and Methods of Sociological Enquiry – Written Exam - one compulsory question based on stimulus material which will be a synopsis of a piece of sociological research plus a choice between education, media & religion to include a data question – 25%.

## Year 13 A2

- Unit 3 - Power and Control – Written Exam – choice of 4 options on the theme of power: crime and deviance, health and disability, politics & world sociology – 25%
- Unit 4 - Social Inequality and Applied Methods of Sociological Enquiry – written exam  
- One compulsory question which will require students to design, justify and evaluate a piece of sociological research plus questions on the theme of social differentiation and stratification – 35%.

### **What could students go on to do at the end of this course?**

The emphasis on skills means that Sociology is a good starting point for academic studies in the humanities (social and politics sciences, economics, geography etc.) but also for vocational studies in health and social care.