



Sociology

Why Sociology?

Sociology sets out to critically examine the world in which we live in today. Going beyond what is our own lived experience and opinions, sociology systematically researches and explains the patterns, causes and consequences of society. As a social science, sociology uses research to observe and develop theories to explain what is or has happened. Core themes such as power and inequality allow you to see the world in a different way. Why does the gender pay gap continue? How does society disable people? Is there a crisis of masculinity? How wide is the inequality in health and wealth?

What can I expect?

Building from core topics of research methods and theories, the sociology A level explores a diverse range of topics such as crime and deviance, health and media. Sociology students learn about the current evidence and trends in each topic such as educational achievement and differences between ethnic minority groups. They learn to assess the usefulness of competing theories that explain these phenomena and develop the skills to articulate not just what each theory argues but what is an apt conclusion to reach. Moreover, sociology students make connections between the textbook theories and what is happening today.

What do I need?

Beyond the entry requirements for sixth form, strong writing skills are vital (a grade 5 or 6 in a humanities subject, English or Media is useful.) While it is not necessary to have a particular grade in science, it is important to understand the purpose and methods of science. More important is to possess a curious mind, a willingness to express your opinion and an interest in current affairs.

What about the future?

- Sociology students have a great deal to offer with powerful communication skills, an ability to analyse information and critical thinking
- Sociology leads into careers such as journalism, teaching, HR, health and social care, social policy and politics

How will I be assessed?

We deliver the AQA A level sociology which optional topics of health and media.

The assessment requires a range of written answers the longest of which is a 45 minute essay.

A Level Sociology		
Paper 1 2 hours	Paper 2 2 hours	Paper 3 2 hours
Content (compulsory) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Education• Methods in Context• Theory & Methods	Content (options taken) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health• Media	Content (compulsory) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Crime & Deviance• Theory & Methods