

## POST 16 SUBJECT OVERVIEW

**Name of Subject** - Sociology

**Which Examination Specification is Studied for this Course?**

AQA- full details of the specification can be found at [aqa.org.uk/sociology](http://aqa.org.uk/sociology)

**Why should I study this course?** - Sociology is the scientific study of society. It allows us to understand social processes and to ultimately improve social policy and welfare. Sociologists are interested in social stratification, social class, social mobility, culture, religion, secularisation, law and deviance.

Families and Households – this topic addresses the relationship between the family and social structures and change. Students will debate different roles and power relationships within the family and demographic.

Education with Methods in Context – this topic addresses the functions of education looking in particular at teacher/pupil relationships. Students will debate the significance of educational policies of selection and privatisation and how this affects equality of opportunity within the education system. Methods in context is the study of research methods which are then applied to research within education.

Crime and Deviance – this topic will debate the social distribution of crime by ethnicity, gender, social class and age. Students will also address global crime such as media and crime; green crime; human rights and state crime.

Beliefs in Society – this topic will address the role of religion, ideology and science in society. Students will address the relationship between social change, social stability and religious beliefs. New Age movements and their relationship to religious and spiritual beliefs and practices will also be explored.

**Who is suitable to study this course?** - If you like to question the major issues affecting all our lives and to understand the factors which influence our cultures and society, then you would enjoy this course. Sociology promotes self-understanding. You will also learn to write effective essays, evaluate research and analyse information.

This A Level provides a good basis for the study of Sociology and related subjects (e.g. Criminology, Administration or Law) at degree level as well as vocational courses, such as Social Work or Nursing. Even if you choose not to progress to further study in this subject, you will find the course satisfying and worthwhile.

**What GCSE Qualifications Support the Study of this Course?** It is not necessary to have studied Sociology at Level 2/GCSE to be accepted on to the Level 3 Sociology.

**What are the Qualification Requirements for this Course?** To be accepted on to the Sociology course you are required to have at least 5 GCSEs at level 4 and above; this needs to include English and Maths. English at a level 5 would be beneficial due to the essay nature of the course.

**How is the Course Delivered?** - You will be taught for 5 hours per week, led by one teacher. You will be expected to consolidate learning, complete homework tasks and independent study each week. You will have access to a Sociology Google Classroom where a bank of lesson and revision resources are stored, and where written work and assessments can be submitted.

Subject Overview		
Half Term	Year 12	Year 13
Autumn 1	Families and Households	Crime and Deviance
Autumn 2	Families and Households	Crime and Deviance
Spring 1	Families and Households	Theory and Methods
Spring 2	Education	Beliefs in Society (Religion)
Summer 1	Education	Beliefs in Society (Religion)
Summer 2	Theory and Methods	

### How is the Course Assessed?

A Level Sociology consists of three examinations (2 hours each) done at the end of two years.

Paper 1: 33.3% written exam - Education with Methods in Context.

Paper 2: 33.3% written exam - Topics in Sociology – Families and Households and Beliefs in Society.

Paper 3: 33.3% written exam - Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods.

**What is our Recommended Subject Reading list to Support your Study?**

**Useful Websites**

<https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology>

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/as-and-a-level/sociology-7191-7192>

<https://hecticteachersalevelsociologysite.wordpress.com/>

