

Curriculum Plan – Sociology

*Called as God's family,
we strive to achieve our personal best,
by living and learning in Christ.*



Department Mission Statement -

The A level sociology department program strives to prepare the sociological imagination of its pupils, which involves the ability to understand how individual and group behaviour is shaped by society's historical development, how personal problems are connected to public issues of the social structure. This imagination promotes critical thinking skills, and promote a healthy respect for research. Our students experience a rigorous curriculum involving theoretical and methodological inquiry aimed at critical thinking, social awareness and justice. As a result students leave with a solid foundation that helps them to question critically, think logically, and to live ethically.

Key Stage 5 Knowledge and Skills Requirement (What knowledge and skills do pupils need to gain by the end of year 13?)

Knowledge To Be Built	Skills To Be Developed
<p>The study of A level sociology must focus on contemporary society. Studying sociology must foster the development of critical and reflective thinking with a respect for social diversity. It must provide an awareness of the importance of social structure and social action in explaining social issues. Students must be encouraged to develop their own sociological awareness through active engagement with the contemporary social world.</p> <p>All the following must be an integral part of the study of each topic area: sociological theories, perspectives and methods, the design of the research used to obtain the data under consideration, including its strengths and limitations.</p> <p>In year 12 students study families and households, in a similar way to education, they look at the structure and evolution of families, what different groups of Sociologists have to say about the position of families within society.</p>	<p>Sociology is a rigorous academic subject that complements a range of other subjects through its development of analytical and evaluative skills and the essay writing and critical thinking skills learnt in sociology are excellent preparation for university and for career paths such as law, the police, criminology, journalism, social work and marketing.</p> <p>Students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> organise evidence and communicate arguments in a coherent manner • demonstrate an awareness and understanding of theoretical debates in sociology • use evidence to support and sustain arguments and conclusions distinguish between facts, opinions and value judgements • select and apply a range of relevant concepts and theories • interpret qualitative and quantitative data • identify and evaluate significant social trends shown in evidence • evaluate theories, arguments and evidence organise evidence and communicate arguments in a coherent manner



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<p>Moving into year 13, students begin the final year of the course by studying the unit of Belief in Society they start by examining the role religion has today, considering topical issues such as secularisation, fundamentalism, the rise of cults and sects and the impact of globalisation and science on beliefs.</p> <p>In Crime and deviance they examine the police and criminal justice system as another institution within society and assess its function and role within society, as well as continuing with the running theme of who benefits and who loses out from the existence of these institutions.</p> <p>Finally, students will consolidate and build on their understanding of sociological theory exploring functionalism, Marxism, feminism, action theories, postmodernism as well as considering whether sociology is a science and links between sociology and social policy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate an awareness and understanding of theoretical debates in sociology • use evidence to support and sustain arguments and conclusions.
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Year Group	Scheme of Work	Knowledge Gained (Including How It Builds on Previous Knowledge Gained)	Skills Developed ((Including How It Builds on Previous Skills Gained)	Assessment of knowledge and skills
12	Families and Households	<p>The relationship of the family to the social structure and social change, with particular reference to the economy and to state policies.</p> <p>Changing patterns of marriage, cohabitation, separation, divorce, childbearing and the life course, including the sociology of personal life, and the diversity of contemporary family and household structures</p>	<p>AO1: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:</p> <p>Sociological theories, concepts and specific terminology and evidence and sociological research methods.</p> <p>AO2: Apply sociological theories, use of exam items to answers, concepts, evidence and research methods to a range of issues</p>	<p>Exam style questions Essays Short answers. Model answers.</p> <p>Outline and explain (10 marks) (applied to each topic area) Outline and Analyse (10 marks) (Applied to each topic area)</p>

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	<p>Education and Research Methods.</p>	<p>Gender roles, domestic labour and power relationships within the family in contemporary society</p> <p>The nature of childhood, and changes in the status of children in the family and society.</p> <p>Demographic trends in the United Kingdom since 1900: birth rates, death rates, family size, life expectancy, ageing population, and migration and globalisation.</p> <p>The role and functions of the education system, including its relationship to the economy and to class structure.</p> <p>Differential educational achievement of social groups by social class, gender and ethnicity in contemporary society.</p> <p>Relationships and processes within schools, with particular reference to teacher/pupil relationships, pupil identities and subcultures, the hidden curriculum,</p>	<p>AO3: Analyse and evaluate sociological theories, concepts, evidence and research methods in order to:</p> <p>present arguments, compare and contrast theories and make judgements and draw conclusions.</p> <p>AO1: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:</p> <p>Sociological theories, concepts and specific terminology and evidence and sociological research methods.</p> <p>AO2: Apply sociological theories, use of exam items to answers, concepts, evidence and research methods to a range of issues</p> <p>AO3: Analyse and evaluate sociological theories, concepts, evidence and research methods in order to:</p>	<p>Using the item and your own knowledge evaluate questions (20 marks) (applied to each topic area)</p> <p>January mock examination on families and households.</p> <p>Exam style questions Essays Short answers. Model answers.</p> <p>Identify and explain (2 and 4 marks)</p> <p>Outline and explain (10 marks) (applied to each topic area)</p> <p>Outline and Analyse (10 marks) (Applied to each topic area)</p>
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	<p>Research Methods</p>	<p>The organisation of teaching and learning the significance of educational policies, including policies of selection, marketisation and privatisation, and policies to achieve greater equality of opportunity or outcome, for an understanding of the structure, role, impact and experience of and access to education;</p> <p>The impact of globalisation on educational policy.</p> <p>Quantitative and qualitative methods of research; research design, sources of data, including questionnaires, interviews, participant and non-participant observation, experiments, documents and official statistics.</p> <p>The distinction between primary and secondary data, and between quantitative and qualitative data.</p> <p>The relationship between positivism, interpretivism and sociological methods; the nature of 'social facts'.</p>	<p>present arguments, compare and contrast theories and make judgements and draw conclusions.</p> <p>AO1: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of: Sociological theories, concepts and specific terminology and evidence and sociological research methods.</p> <p>AO2: Apply sociological theories, use of exam items to answers, concepts, evidence and research methods to a range of issues</p> <p>AO3: Analyse and evaluate sociological theories, concepts, evidence and research methods in order to:</p>	<p>Using the item and your own knowledge evaluate questions (20 marks) (applied to each topic area)</p> <p>END OF YEAR MOCK EXAM BASED ON PAPER 1</p> <p>Outline and explain (10 marks) (applied to each topic area)</p> <p>Using the item and your own knowledge evaluate questions (20 marks) (applied to each topic area)</p> <p>To design a research project . Assessment will be based on research design, ethics and display of results and potential</p>
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		<p>The theoretical, practical and ethical considerations influencing choice of topic, choice of method(s) and the conduct of research consensus, conflict, structural and social action theories.</p> <p>The concepts of modernity and post-modernity in relation to sociological theory the nature of science and the extent to which Sociology can be regarded as scientific</p> <p>The relationship between theory and methods debates about subjectivity, objectivity and value freedom.</p> <p>The relationship between Sociology and social policy.</p>	<p>present arguments, compare and contrast theories and make judgements and draw conclusions.</p>	<p>problems that the student may encounter.</p> <p>This section forms part of the end of year MOCK EXAM</p>
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<p>13</p>	<p>Beliefs in Society</p>	<p>Ideology, science and religion, including both Christian and non-Christian religious traditions.</p> <p>The relationship between social change and social stability, and religious beliefs, practices and organisations.</p> <p>Religious organisations, including cults, sects, denominations, churches and New Age movements, and their relationship to religious and spiritual belief and practice.</p> <p>The relationship between different social groups and religious/spiritual organisations and movements, beliefs and practices.</p> <p>The significance of religion and religiosity in the contemporary world, including the nature and extent of secularisation in a global context, and globalisation and the spread of religions.</p>	<p>AO1: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of: Sociological theories, concepts and specific terminology and evidence and sociological research methods.</p> <p>AO2: Apply sociological theories, use of exam items to answers, concepts, evidence and research methods to a range of issues</p> <p>AO3: Analyse and evaluate sociological theories, concepts, evidence and research methods in order to: present arguments, compare and contrast theories and make judgements and draw conclusions.</p>	<p>Exam style questions Essays Short answers. Model answers.</p> <p>Outline and explain (10 marks) (applied to each topic area) Outline and Analyse (10 marks) (Applied to each topic area)</p> <p>Using the item and your own knowledge evaluate questions (20 marks) (applied to each topic area)</p> <p>January mock examination on families and households and Beliefs in Society.</p>
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	<p>Crime and Deviance and Theory and Method.</p>	<p>Crime, deviance, social order and social control.</p> <p>The social distribution of crime and deviance by ethnicity, gender and social class, including recent patterns and trends in crime.</p> <p>Globalisation and crime in contemporary society; the media and crime; green crime; human rights and state crimes</p> <p>Crime control, surveillance, prevention and punishment, victims, and the role of the criminal justice system and other agencies.</p>	<p>AO1: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:</p> <p>Sociological theories, concepts and specific terminology and evidence and sociological research methods.</p> <p>AO2: Apply sociological theories, use of exam items to answers, concepts, evidence and research methods to a range of issues</p> <p>AO3: Analyse and evaluate sociological theories, concepts, evidence and research methods in order to:</p> <p>present arguments, compare and contrast theories and make judgements and draw conclusions.</p>	<p>Exam style questions</p> <p>Essays</p> <p>Short answers.</p> <p>Model answers.</p> <p>Identify and explain (2 and 4 marks)</p> <p>Outline and explain (10 marks) (applied to each topic area)</p> <p>Outline and Analyse (10 marks) (Applied to each topic area)</p> <p>Using the item and your own knowledge evaluate questions (20 marks) (applied to each topic area)</p> <p>Theory and Method: Outline and explain (10 marks) (applied to each topic area)</p>
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				<p>Using the item and your own knowledge evaluate questions (20 marks) (applied to each topic area)</p> <p>END OF YEAR MOCK EXAM BASED ON PAPER 3</p>
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