

Subject: Sociology

What the subject is about:

The study of Sociology encourages young people to develop knowledge and understanding of the society in which they live. It involves discussion, debate and investigation into the main feature of our society. Students will develop a greater awareness of current affairs and become more informed about Government policies.

Course Content and Assessment Schedule:

AS outline

At AS, candidates studying this specification will acquire knowledge of contemporary social processes and social changes. Candidates will be encouraged to develop their own sociological awareness through active engagement with the contemporary social world.

The AS specification has 2 units:

Unit 1: Culture and Identity; Families and Households; Wealth, Poverty and Welfare	
Topic list	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Culture and Identity• Families and Households• Wealth, Poverty and Welfare.	Written Paper: 1 hour Weighting: 40% of total AS 20% of total A Level marks
Candidates choose one topic from three and answer one question. Each question consists of five parts.	
Unit 2: Education; Health; Sociological Methods	
Topic list	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Education• Health• Sociological Methods.	Written Paper: 2 hours Weighting: 60% of total AS 30% of total A Level marks
Candidates choose one topic (Education or Health) and answer: (a) one question on the chosen topic. This question consists of four parts (b) one question on sociological research methods in the context of the chosen topic. This question consists of one part.	
In addition, candidates answer one question on free-standing research methods. This question consists of four parts	

Entry Requirements:

Compulsory GCSE subjects

Grade Desirable subjects Grade

- Grade A – English
- Good grade in History / Geography

Qualities / Skills needed to succeed in the course:

Students must:

- Have an interest in current affairs and the world around them.
- Be able to work independently and carry out research.
- Have an excellent standard of English and be competent in note-taking and essay writing skills/extracting and organising relevant material from a range of sources.
- Be open minded enough to evaluate the numerous reasons provided by research to explain features of our society – eg. Divorce, Educational underachievement, cultural and identity issues.