

**Subject:**

# Sociology A Level

**Sociology A level Intent:**

Studying Sociology at A Level provides students with a view of the social world which encourages them to analyse issues such as: racism, sexism, homophobia and social class inequalities. Students begin by looking at how family life in the UK has evolved. Students will be able to identify themselves in this unit of A level, as the UK today is a diverse, advanced, society and the make-up of different family types reflects this. Students will go on to analyse issues within education, again looking at: class, race and gender. Crime and Deviance will look at sociological explanations for why crime occurs and how it is controlled. Students will become aware of their own sociological imagination through the study of research methods. Overall studying Sociology at A level should enable students to see their world in a different, clearer, way. It is a subject that adapts to various careers and is very useful for anything involving human interaction.

**Our Exam Board is: AQA**

## The Big Questions...

Year 12	Year 13
<p><b>Families &amp; Households</b> <b>Education</b> <b>Research Methods</b></p> <p>▪ <b>Big Questions Explored:</b> How has the family evolved since the turn of the century? What factors have influenced changes in marriage and family life in the UK? How have children's lives changed over recent decades? What are the reasons for the changes in children's lives in recent years? Does every pupil have an equal chance within the British Education System? Are some pupils at more of an advantage than others within our Education System? Why are some pupils more advantaged within Education than others? How is sociological research carried out? How can we study people's behaviour in a scientific way? What is the point of carrying out sociological research?</p>	<p><b>Crime &amp; Deviance</b> <b>Sociology Theory</b> <b>Beliefs in Society</b></p> <p>▪ <b>Big Questions Explored:</b> Why does crime occur and who commits it? Why do some groups feature more in the crime statistics? What methods are effective at controlling crime? What is the point of Sociological Theory? Is it possible to keep your values out of sociological research? Why do some people follow a religious belief? Why has society become more secular? Why has there been a growth in 'alternative' beliefs? Has science detracted from religious beliefs? Why are some groups more religious than others?</p>

**What skills will I develop?**

- Students will develop a knowledge of sociological theory which they can apply to the wider society.
- Students will develop empathy with people from different walks of life and an understanding that inequality is a characteristic which can define a person's life chances.
- Students will hone their written skills and the skills associated with A level writing, including analysis, application and evaluation in preparation for summative examinations.
- Students will develop an understanding of the diverse and every changing nature of postmodern society.
- Students should recognise the need for continuing sociological research to both explain and improve the world they live in.

**What great resources can I use?**

- <https://revisesociology.com/> contains very useful back-up material on A level Sociology topics
- <https://www.thestudentroom.co.uk/> includes A level material and advice on how to prepare for exams
- <https://www.senecalearning.com/> contains great revision resources for students
- <https://quizlet.com/en-gb> contains material on making revision resources

**How will I be assessed?**

Students are assessed with weekly essays, throughout both Years 12 and 13. There will also be assessment carried out on shorter examination style questions. Most lessons will involve a quick check assessment element at the start and the end. Homework is given at every lesson. Sometimes peer assessment will be used but this will always be checked by the subject teacher.

**Examinations:**

- **Year 12** will complete timed essays in class, approximately once a term. There is a post-Christmas mini mock on the Families & Household unit. Students will need to achieve within two grades of their target grade.
- **Year 13** will complete mock exams in January, prior to taking three two hour long A level papers, for their Sociology A level, in the summer term. This marks the completion of their two year A level course.

**Three ways that parents/carers can help...**

1. Show My Homework is our school site where homework is put up, logged and sometimes graded. Parents can access this. It's a good way to monitor your child's progress.
2. Getting in touch with the teacher if you have any concerns [kate.magee@yateley.hants.sch.uk](mailto:kate.magee@yateley.hants.sch.uk)
3. Encouraging your daughter or son to explore routes after college which they will find interesting and exciting. When students have a goal, it is one of the best motivating tools in terms of achievement.