

# A Level Sociology

## What Will You Study?

- **Culture and Identity** - What does it mean to be part of a subculture? What is the difference between high and low culture? How has global culture changed our lifestyles? Who are you? Is identity socially constructed or socially caused? What is the relationship of identity to age, disability, ethnicity, gender, nationality, sexuality and social class in contemporary society?
- **Education** - Why does the government spend around £56 billion on education each year? What are you really learning at school - skills for life or social conformity? Why do girls outperform boys? What factors determine success at school?
- **Theory and Methods** – How do theories such as Marxism or Functionalism relate to the positivist and interpretivist approaches? Is Sociology a science? How does sociology affect social policy?
- **Methods in Context** – How can you apply the research methods that you have studied to investigating topics in education?
- **Media** - Does the age of new personalised media mean more consumer choice, resulting in a wide range of opinions? Or are they dominated by media conglomerates that use them for their own purposes? Has YouTube beaten TV? Should the government be able to control the film industry? Do the media shape your opinions... or are you, the audience, in control?
- **Crime and Deviance** - Why do people commit crime? Who decides what a 'crime' is? Why are most crimes committed by men? How should crime be punished? How do the media affect our perceptions of crime? Should criminology focus on lower-class crime like benefit fraud, or on higher-class crime like tax evasion? Why have there been allegations of racism against the police?



## When Will You Study It?

You will have **10 lessons a fortnight** over the period of two years.

The lessons will be taught in ways that will develop a number of skills that benefit student development, including: independent and group work; presentations; research projects; exam question application and analysis.

This course ensures that all students are given the opportunity to acquire the essential skills necessary for further study and successful sociological research.



## What Skills Will You Get from Studying Sociology?

- Skills in reasoning and critical assessment
- The ability to argue a point of view
- In depth knowledge and understanding of society and its workings
- Skills in research and data analysis



## What Kind of Career Does Sociology Lend Itself to?

- Law
- Market Research
- The Civil Service/Local Government
- The Police
- Politics
- Teaching
- Development work/work in voluntary agencies
- Social Work
- Research and Planning e.g. Town Planning



## How Will I Be Assessed?

<u>Paper</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Assessment</u>	<u>Marks Available</u>	<u>Percentage of A Level</u>
1	<b>Education with Theory and Methods</b> <i>Education, Methods in Context, Theory and Methods</i>	2 Hour Examination	80 Marks	33.3%
2	<b>Topics in Sociology</b> <i>Culture and Identity, Media</i>	2 Hour Examination	80 Marks	33.3%
3	<b>Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods</b> <i>Crime and Deviance, Theory and Methods</i>	2 Hour Examination	80 Marks	33.3%