

# A-level Sociology

Do you want to know why we do the things we do? Sociology is an exciting subject which helps you understand the society we live in. With a focus on contemporary issues, sociology helps you to answer questions such as: Why do we have to go to school? Why do we live in families? What are the benefits of religion? Why do some people commit crime? Sociology will make you question things that previously you may have taken for granted. You will look at how we can study society using a range of methods and which are the most appropriate for different areas of social life. You will also examine a range of theoretical perspectives or ways of seeing the world.

Sociology is the study of society; it challenges common sense assumptions in order to seek answers to some of the big questions, for example 'What causes people to commit crime?' Sociologists are interested in the way in which society shapes our behaviour.

## What is covered?

- Paper one: education, methods in context, theory and methods (two hours)
- Paper two: families and households, beliefs in society (two hours)
- Paper three: crime and deviance, theory and methods (two hours)

## What does the course involve?

You will cover a range of topics over the two year period as outlined above. In addition to the subject content, sociology will help you to develop analytical and critical ways of thinking. You will develop your essay writing skills as well as verbal communication skills. These skills are beneficial across a range of subjects.

## What next?

Sociology provides an excellent set of skills for entry to most university degrees including those related to social sciences, anthropology, and criminology. Sociology students may follow careers in a wide range of areas, such as social work, law, journalism, the caring professions, policing, the civil service, advertising, market research, teaching, management, and business.

## Quick course facts

You should have a minimum of five GCSEs graded at level 4 or above, including Mathematics and a level 5 or above in English.

Sociology involves a high level of essay writing where you will develop your analytical skills.

You will gain an insight into how societies are formed and run.

If you are interested in this A-level then shows such as 'Mock the Week' and Question Time will prove helpful.

You should also keep up-to-date with worldly developments by taking an interest in the news.

