

Sociology Curriculum Overview

Year 10

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Topic(s)	Studying Society	Research Methods in Sociological Research	Families and Households		Education	
Topic Objectives	Understand what sociology is and why we study it. Learn key terms like culture, norms, values, and socialisation. Explore how society influences our behaviour.	Discover how sociologists investigate society. Learn about different research methods (like interviews and surveys) and why some are more useful than others. Think critically about the information we see in the news.	Investigate how families shape who we are. Look at different types of families, how they've changed over time, and what sociologists say about them. Explore gender roles, marriage, and why some families don't always work well. We will then continue exploring family life and how it's influenced by wider society. Look at debates about family diversity, feminism, and family roles in today's world.		Understand the role of schools in shaping our future. Why do some people do better than others? Explore social class, gender, and ethnicity in education. Think about how schools prepare us for work and life. Prepare for exams with structured revision and a full mock exam on Component 1. Recap key topics, practise exam skills, and sharpen evaluation techniques.	
Acquired Knowledge/ Skills	- Learn how sociologists think and study society - Understand key sociological concepts - Use examples from real life to explain how society shapes us	- Know different research methods and their strengths/weaknesses - Think like a sociologist by questioning information and statistics - Understand how research is used to explain social issues	- Describe different family types and how they change over time - Apply sociological theories (Functionalism, Marxism, Feminism) - Discuss modern family life and its challenges - Debate controversial topics about families, like gender roles and divorce rates - Use evidence and case studies to explain changes in society - Apply sociological theories to real-world examples		- Understand how schools are structured and how they help (or limit) success - Explore why some groups achieve more than others - Use sociological research to explain patterns in education - Develop exam skills, including essay writing and answering short questions - Improve confidence in explaining sociological ideas - Strengthen critical thinking and evaluation skills	

Assessments	Short test on key sociological concepts and terms.	Research methods quiz and exam-style questions.	Extended writing assessment on families. End-of-unit test covering all family-related topics.	Full mock exam covering Component 1 topics.
Other Links (e.g. SMSC, FBV, Greener Curriculum)	Exploring how social norms and values shape identity.	Ethical considerations in research.	Respecting different family models and values. Family structures in different cultures and their impact on identity. The role of feminism and equality in shaping family roles. How changing family sizes impact the environment.	Education as a tool for social mobility. Reflecting on social issues and personal growth. Examining equality of opportunity in schools.

Sociology Curriculum Overview

Year 11

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Topic(s)	Social Stratification & Inequality	Crime and Deviance	Applied Sociological Research	Exam Skills & Component 2 Mock	Final Revision & Exam Preparation	Exams
Topic Objectives	Explore how society is structured and why some groups have more power than others. Examine the impact of class, gender, ethnicity, and age on life chances.	Understand why people commit crimes and how society controls criminal behaviour. Explore sociological perspectives on crime, punishment, and justice.	Learn how sociologists conduct research to investigate social issues. Develop skills in analysing sources, evaluating evidence, and applying research methods.	Focus on refining exam techniques for Component 2. Practise applying theories and evaluating key sociological debates.	Consolidate knowledge of all topics. Identify areas for improvement and focus on timed practice questions.	Apply all knowledge and skills in the final GCSE exams.
Acquired Knowledge/ Skills	- Understand social class, gender, and ethnicity as factors shaping inequality. - Apply sociological theories (Functionalism, Marxism, Weberian, Feminism). - Examine the role of power and authority in society.	- Understand crime patterns and how they differ based on age, gender, class, and ethnicity. - Apply sociological theories of crime (Functionalist, Marxist, Interactionist, Feminist). - Explore how media and institutions influence crime perception.	- Analyse different sociological research methods and evaluate their strengths and weaknesses. - Apply research methods to real-life case studies. - Interpret sociological data using graphs, statistics, and sources.	- Develop structured essay responses with clear arguments. - Practise timed questions focusing on AO1, AO2, and AO3 skills. - Improve ability to critically evaluate sociological perspectives.	- Strengthen confidence in answering exam questions effectively. - Use examiner reports and mark schemes to refine answers. - Engage in peer review and self-assessment tasks.	- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding across all sociology topics. - Apply sociological theories and research methods effectively. - Construct well-developed, evaluative responses under timed conditions.

Assessments	Short-answer and extended-response questions on stratification and inequality.	Exam-style questions on crime theories and social control.	Research methods mini-project and evaluation task.	Full mock exam on Component 2 (Social Structures, Crime, and Research).	Exam-style questions across all topics, with personalised feedback.	Final GCSE Exams
Other Links (e.g. SMSC, FBV, Greener Curriculum)	SMSC: Understanding fairness, justice, and social mobility. FBV: Exploring democracy, human rights, and power structures.	SMSC: Moral debates on crime, punishment, and rehabilitation. FBV: Examining the justice system and the rule of law.	SMSC: Ethical issues in research and data collection. Greener Curriculum: How research helps address global challenges like inequality.	SMSC: Developing self-reflection and resilience through exam preparation. FBV: Respecting different perspectives and debates in sociology.	SMSC: Personal responsibility and growth in preparing for success. FBV: Developing a critical awareness of society.	SMSC: Applying knowledge to real-world issues and personal aspirations.