

Syllabus details

OCR 1990 syllabus is being followed.

What does the course include?

What is power? How are political decisions made? What is normal behaviour and what is deviant? Why is work important? Why do people commit crime? Is social class important? Why do we go to school? Why do we live in families?

These are the sorts of questions we attempt to answer in Sociology GCSE.

Sociology is about understanding social groups and societies. Although the main focus of study will be modern Britain, we also use examples and case studies from other societies.

You will have a general introduction to all areas of sociology, including the way sociologists carry out their research. The area of study is wide, the issues are very topical.

Paper 1 & 3:

- Power and Citizenship;
- Family;
- Crime and Deviance

Paper 2 & 4

- Education;
- Work and Employment;
- Poverty

What skills will I need to be successful in this subject?

In order for you to succeed on this course you must be prepared to involve yourself in debates. Written work is essential and commitment to improving and developing as an independent learner is greatly emphasised.

How will I learn?

Lessons will be active and, we hope, enjoyable. You will take part in individual and group research. You will use investigations and a variety of activities to help you to understand the concepts and theories of sociology.

Activities will be backed up by reading and note taking. In class you will prepare and take part in debates. You will plan and participate in visits to relevant places wherever possible

How will my work be assessed?

Your teachers will assess your work in terms of written work, data response answers and practical work during the course. The final assessment will be in the form of two written exam papers and an individual piece of coursework which is worth 20% of the total marks.

What are the entry requirements?

You need no previous experience of sociology, but if this course is taken as part of a GCSE package, you should have several GCSE grades at D and E.

What are the opportunities after this course for further/higher education and employment?

GCSE Sociology is a good basis for further study in any of the humanities or social sciences at advanced level.

It is compatible with, and will support and enhance, GNVQ Health and Social Care studies at all levels.

It is a good basis for any career in which you work with people, e.g. the media, nursing, social work, law, probation work, marketing, business, any kind of research - the list is endless.