



# A Level Sociology

## **Why Study A Level Sociology?**

If you're curious about how society works, why people behave the way they do and how social institutions shape our lives, then Sociology is a great choice! This subject helps you develop critical thinking, analytical skills and an understanding of social issues.

## **What will you learn?**

### **1. Families and Households**

- Different family types (e.g., nuclear, extended, lone-parent families).
- Changing roles of men and women in the family.
- The impact of government policies on families.
- The role of families in shaping society.

### **2. Education**

- How different social groups (e.g., class, gender, ethnicity) perform in school.
- The impact of government policies on education.
- The role of teachers, school structures and hidden curriculum.
- Whether education benefits everyone equally or maintains inequality.

### **3. Theory and Methods**

- Key sociological perspectives (e.g. Marxism, Functionalism, Feminism).
- Research methods sociologists use (e.g., interviews, experiments, observations).
- How sociology can be considered a science.

#### 4. Crime and Deviance (Year 13)

- Why people commit crimes and how crime is measured.
- The role of the media in shaping our view of crime.
- How class, gender, and ethnicity affect criminal behaviour and punishment.
- The effectiveness of crime prevention strategies.

#### 5. Beliefs in Society (Year 13)

- The role of religion in modern society.
- Secularisation—are people becoming less religious?
- Religious fundamentalism and new religious movements.
- How religion can be a force for social change or social control.

### How is the exam structured?

The course is assessed through three exams at the end of Year 13:


- **Paper 1: Education with Theory and Methods** (2 hours, 80 marks)
  - 4 mark question
  - 6 mark question
  - 10 mark question
  - 30 mark question
  - 20 mark question
  - 10 mark question
- **Paper 2: Families & Households and Beliefs in Society** (2 hours, 80 marks)
  - 10 mark question
  - 10 mark question
  - 20 mark question
  - 10 mark question
  - 10 mark question
  - 20 mark question


- **Paper 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods** (2 hours, 80 marks)
  - 4 mark question
  - 6 mark question
  - 10 mark question
  - 30 mark question
  - 20 mark question
  - 10 mark question


### **Future Prospects:**


Studying sociology can open doors to a wide range of careers, including:


 **Criminal Justice & Law:** e.g. police officer, lawyer, prison officer

 **Education & Research:** e.g. teacher, educational psychologist, youth worker

 **Social & Community Work:** e.g. social worker, charity/NGO worker, mental health support worker

 **Media & Journalism:** e.g. journalist, media researcher, public relations specialist

 **Government & Public Sector:** e.g. civil servant, policy advisor, human rights officer

 **Business & Marketing:** e.g. human resources manager, market research analyst, diversity and inclusion officer

Sociology gives you a broad skill set, making it a great subject for anyone who wants a career that involves understanding people, analysing information, and solving social problems.