



Curriculum Intent of SOCIOLOGY

September 2026

A Level Sociology (AQA)

Intent

To enable and develop students who:

- To examine the human society and how it functions through different sociological perspectives
- To analyse the world around us and understand the cause and consequences of changes; and be able to link sociological theories to current world affairs
- To identify significant events – such as changes in laws, make connections, draw contrasts, and analyse trends within periods and over long arcs of time
- To be able to use sociological terms and concepts in increasingly sophisticated ways
- To be able to draw on relevant subject knowledge when making an analysis and communicate ideas in a clear and concise manner
- To develop an understanding how different research methods are used to develop sociological theories and understanding of our society, and discern how and why contrasting arguments and interpretations of the world have been constructed

Skills

The core skills students will develop are:

- The ability to extract key information from a long text.
- The ability to select relevant and accurate evidence to support an argument
- The ability to evaluate a theory through examining its strengths and weaknesses, and comparing it with other theories
- The ability to carry out a research study independently, including proposing a question, choose and use a research method, analyse findings and draw a conclusion
- The ability to draw links between different topics and understand how different aspects of the society are interlinked

Knowledge

The core knowledge students will develop is:

- Changes to the family structure around the world and in Britain, and the resulting effects on families, households and childhood
- The history around the development of the education system in Britain, including types of schools, the curriculum and educational policies
- Different types of crime and sociological explanations as to why crimes and deviance happen, and how to reduce them
- The role and significance of beliefs in society, including religion, secularisation, globalisation and the ways belief systems influence individuals, communities and social change.
- How different topics we learn all contribute to shaping our society, policies and the economy
- Different types of research methods and how they are applied to studies in education, and crime and deviance