



Sociology Curriculum

Intent

Sociology is a subject that allows us to identify and understand social issues through all areas of society. Attitudes around equality are currently dominant in both mainstream and social media; students who study Sociology have the opportunity to learn about the issues that surround them in more depth, exploring a range of perspectives and methods.

Learning about Sociology can lead to a wide range of opportunities. Sociology is applied to sectors including politics, education, social services, criminal justice, charity work and health.

Students who study Sociology will

- Develop understanding of societal structure; the way in which the experiences of social groups differ and why as how society is changing
- Develop the ability to be self-reflective about their own experiences and behaviours
- Develop critical thinking skills that enable objective and thorough research

Implementation

At Chosen Hill Sixth Form, students study the AQA Sociology A Level specification. This specification has been selected due to the balance of breadth and depth; students will study across different Sociological perspectives whilst examining different institutions in depth. This specification also develops students' understanding of the way in which sociologists carry out their research.

Classroom teaching is enhanced with opportunities for students to carry out some practical investigation. This means that students will work with each other to test hypotheses at several points throughout the course, including a visit to Bristol Zoo Education Centre for a workshop on behavioural observation. Homework and Directed Study work will be set to enable both consolidation and preparation for lessons. In addition, materials are made available for Self-Directed Study to ensure that students are well equipped to carry out effective independent study.

Assessment

This A Level is 100% exam; there are three papers. Each paper is equally weighted and is comprised of a combination of essay questions and some short answer questions.

Throughout the year, students will be set essays during the teaching of each topic and have the opportunity to practice in the conditions of the exam.