

# Sociology

Exam Board: AQA



[www.stbarts.co.uk](http://www.stbarts.co.uk)



## Course Summary

Sociology is the study of society, and of human behaviour in society. We explore how people's social class, ethnicity and gender identity can impact on experiences and interactions.

In Year 12, you will focus on the sociology of families and households as well as the unit Education with Theory and Methods. Areas that are investigated include reasons for differences in educational achievement, the role and purpose of education in society and the changing patterns of family types in society.

In Year 13, the units of Sociology of the Mass Media and Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods are covered. During which we will examine the role of the media in shaping behaviour and the impact of media stereotyping of different social groups. We also consider what crimes in society are the most dangerous, who are more likely to be defined as 'criminal' and how society punishes criminals.

Throughout the course you will study and apply key sociological theories such as Marxism, Feminism and Functionalism. You will evaluate the research methods sociologists use and apply contemporary examples.

## Entry Requirements

GCSE Sociology is not a requirement but where students have completed the course, a Grade 5 is required.

## Course Assessment

Sociology is assessed by three end of course examinations which consist of a mixture of short answer and extended essay questions.

## Where might it lead?

Sociology encourages the development of skills and attributes desired by universities and employers. These include critical thinking, the appropriate use of and evaluation of complex information, the ability to analyse and effective written and verbal communication. Sociology can lead to a range of degree courses within the social sciences such as criminology, anthropology, as well as sociology itself. It also links to a range of degrees and careers that involve understanding society such as professions in education, health, media, research and government.



Sociology has changed how I see and understand the world. We question what is considered normal in society and why some people are more privileged than others. I enjoy the different theories and competing viewpoints we get to study and the use of recent examples in our work. JAMES

