

**2023-2025 SOCIOLOGY Curriculum Plan****Key Stage 5**

Our curriculum intent for AQA A Level Sociology reflects our commitment to providing students with a rich and transformative educational experience. We aim to empower them to become informed, empathetic, and active citizens who are equipped to navigate an increasingly complex and interconnected world.

**Year 12**

September

**Introduction to what Sociology is and sociological theory:**

What is sociology/core themes  
 Culture, norms, values, and socialisation  
 Functionalism  
 Marxism  
 Feminism,  
 Structuralism verses Action theory  
 Labelling  
 The New Right  
 Post modernism

ASSESSMENT  
 INTRODUCTORY TOPIC

October - January

**Topic 1 - Families and Households:**

Changing family patterns and diversity

The relationship of the family to the social structure and social change, including theoretical perspectives and social policy

**Topic 2 - Education:**

Role of education – historical context

Role of education – Functionalism

Role of education – Marxism

Role of education – Feminism

Role of education – the New Right

Social class and achievement – external factors

		Social class and achievement – internal factors Social class and identity
<b>ASSESSMENT</b>	<b>TRIAL EXAM 1</b>	
	<b>Family patterns: partnerships</b>	<b>Theories of the Family</b> <b>Class and achievement</b>
January - March	Gender roles, domestic labour and power relationships  The nature of childhood, and changes in the status	Gender and achievement - external factors Gender and achievement - internal factors Gender and achievement – boys Gender and subject choice  Ethnicity and achievement - external factors Ethnicity and achievement - internal factors
April - June	Demographic trends in the United Kingdom since 1900	Education policy – before 1988 Education policy – after 1988 The privatisation of education
<b>ASSESSMENT</b>	<b>TRIAL EXAM 2</b>	
	<b>Social Policy and the family</b>	<b>Childhood</b> <b>Role of Education</b> <b>Gender</b>
	<b>Gender roles in the family</b>	
June July	<b>Topic 5 – Research Methods</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• quantitative and qualitative methods of research</li> <li>• sources of data, including questionnaires, interviews, participant and non-participant observation, experiments, documents, and official statistics</li> </ul>	<b>Topic 4 – Crime and Deviance</b>  Defining crime and deviance Crime statistics

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the distinction between primary and secondary data, and between quantitative and qualitative data</li><li>• the relationship between positivism, interpretivism and sociological methods; the nature of 'social facts'</li><li>• the theoretical, practical and ethical considerations influencing choice of topic, choice of method(s) and the conduct of research.</li></ul>	
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**Year 13**

September - February

The Media

The relationship between ownership and control of the media

The media, globalisation and popular culture  
The process of selection and presentation of the content of the news

Media representations of age, social class, ethnicity, gender, sexuality and disability

The relationship between the mass media, media content and presentation, and audiences.

The new media and their significance for an understanding of the role of the media in contemporary society.

Crime and Deviance

Functionalist theories of crime: Durkheim  
Merton's strain theory; Chicago School;  
functionalist subcultural theories; Miller; Matza;  
British Studies

Marxist and neo-Marxist theories of crime:  
classical Marxism, - ideology, law creation and  
implementation; Neo-Marxism, the CCCS  
studies and new criminology

Interactionist theories of crime: labelling theory,  
the self-fulfilling prophecy.

Mass media and crime: media's role in social  
construction of crime including moral panics  
and amplification; crime and news values and  
agenda setting; representations of crime (both  
fact and fiction)

		<p>Right Realism – Situational Crime prevention, Opportunity Theory; Rational Choice Theory</p> <p>Left Realism – relative deprivation; marginalisation; the Square of Crime</p> <p>Patterns of crime: Gender and crime</p>
<p>ASSESSMENT (February/March)</p>	<p><b>TRIAL EXAM (Paper 1: C&amp;D/Education)</b></p> <p><u>Crime &amp; Deviance</u> Media and crime; Gender and crime; Crime, interactionism and labelling theory (Essay)</p> <p><u>Education</u> Class and educational achievement; Ethnicity and educational achievement (Essay)</p> <p><b>TRIAL EXAM (Paper 2: Families &amp; Households/Media)</b></p> <p><u>Families and Households</u> Gender roles in the family and family patterns; Globalisation and the family; Childhood</p> <p><u>The Media</u> Globalisation and the media; Selection and presentation of the news; Ownership and control of the media</p>	
<p>February - Easter</p>	<p><u>Theory and Methods</u></p> <p>Recap on methods – quantitative and qualitative data/methods</p> <p>Sociology and science – positivism verses interpretivism / definitions of science</p> <p>Sociology, objectivity and values in sociology</p> <p>Functionalism</p> <p>Marxism – Marx – traditional Marxism, Structuralist Marxism, Humanist Marxism</p> <p>Feminist theories – liberal, Marxist, Radical, Difference, Post-structuralist, dual systems feminism</p>	<p><u>Crime and Deviance</u></p> <p>Patterns of crime: Ethnicity and Crime</p> <p>Globalisation and crime in contemporary society</p> <p>Cybercrime</p> <p>Green crime</p> <p>Human rights and state crimes.</p>

	<p>Action theories – social action theory  Action theories – symbolic interactionism  Action theories – labelling theory / Goffman’s dramaturgical model  Action theories - Structuration  Globalisation and modernity  Post modernism and Late modernism  Marxist theories of postmodernity  Sociology and social policy</p>	<p>Justice, punishment, and social control  Victimology  <u>Theory and Methods</u>  Methods in context</p>
Easter - June	Revision	