

# Sociology Curriculum Overview

## Curriculum intent

Alongside achieving the qualifications to enable them to progress into further and higher education, we would like our students to also attain the following.

Foster a critical awareness of contemporary social processes and change, and draw together the knowledge, understanding and skills of analysis and evaluation learned in different aspects of the course.

We want our students to engage in theoretical debate, and understand the significance of conflict and consensus, social structure and social action, and the role of values.

We want students to build on skills developed in the sciences and humanities and to use these skills to enable progression onto a wide range of other subjects, including sociology.

We want our students leave our sociology course better equipped to understand a globalised world and be critically aware of any inequality and injustice they may encounter.

## Curriculum Implementation

The course is organised to allow theoretical introduction along with core themes at beginning of course. These themes are threaded throughout the course and are addressed in the same pattern throughout teaching different units, Theories, followed by differentiation.

Trips and extra-curricular activities to help foster interest in learning alongside allowing students to apply their learning of theoretical concepts of society to the real world.

Research methods taught in parallel with other units to allow for a 'practical' implementation of ideas that can be linked to the themes running in other units.

Teaching methods include low stakes testing, class debate and discussion, teacher input alongside pupil research. The use of tables and worksheets to help with organisation of notes, group work, presentations and links to contemporary issues.

## Curriculum impact

The skills gained from studying sociology, include analytical and evaluative techniques and independent essay writing, which will allow progress onto a variety of degree subjects.

Some students have wished to carry on with the study of sociology and sociology related subjects at university, in the last cohort, we had two students accepted to study sociology, two for criminology and one for anthropology. This course aims to give students a solid knowledge base from which to study these subjects. We also currently have three sociology teachers in the borough who are ex-students, showing the long-term impact of the course.

We also believe that students leave our sociology course better equipped to understand a globalised world and be critically aware of any inequality and injustice they may encounter. We know this through their ability to link contemporary material to exam answers, along with their ability to articulate well thought out and evidence-based opinions in the classroom setting.