

## SOCIOLOGY



Head of Department: Mrs L Winterflood  
Teachers: Ms L Winterflood, Mrs Edwards  
Examination Board: WJEC

### What Will I Study?

You will explore the ways in which we learn, the norms and values of our society, who makes 'the rules' and why. You will explore some of the explanations for underachievement in education, why some people are poor and others rich and the impact that this has on their lives. You will look at the ways that the media influences us and whether the news provides a reliable 'window on the world'. You will learn to look at topical issues and problems from different points of view and to support each with evidence. You will learn how to write well and to argue effectively. You will learn that Sociology is a fascinating subject.

### How Will I Be Assessed?

Internal assessment will be done through homework assignments, tests, presentations and tutorials. External assessments will take place in January and May.

#### AS LEVEL YEAR 12

SY1: 15% of qualification – 1 hour 15 minutes external exam

SY2: 25% of qualification – 2 hours external exam

#### A LEVEL YEAR 13

SY3: 25% of qualification – 2 hours external exam

SY4: 35% of qualification – 2 hours 15 minutes external exam

### Course Outline

The AS/A2 course focuses on the acquisition of knowledge and critical understanding of contemporary social processes and structures. Familiar aspects of life such as Family, Culture, Education and Poverty are examined from traditional and more contemporary theoretical perspectives. Students will learn how to conduct sociological research and develop skills required for academic and vocational progression.

#### YEAR 12 AS

Unit 1: Acquiring Culture (Family) 15%

Unit 2: Understanding Society and Methods (Education) 25%

#### YEAR 13 A2

Unit 3: Understanding Power and Control (Crime) 20%

Unit 4: Social Inequality and Applied Methods 30%

### Entry Requirements

At least Grade C in English Language. Students will also be expected to:

- Have a lively questioning mind and contribute freely to discussions.
- Be independent learners who can research topics themselves using a variety of sources.
- Be interested in the world in which they live and in the important issues affecting society.

*The department consistently achieves very good results, last year 96% achieved an A\*-C with an overall pass of 100%.*

### Career Opportunities And Progression

Sociology provides an excellent foundation for a wide variety of Higher Level courses and professions. Sociological modules are found on many Undergraduate Courses in subjects such as Medicine, Law, Criminology, Journalism, Politics, Environmental and Earth Science Courses, Social Work, Education, a wide range of health Care Professions and many more. Sociology provides an understanding of social processes that are part and parcel of any work role and as such enables students to apply their understanding across an enormous range of careers. Students of Sociology usually agree that "everyone should do it" and that it is not what it is frequently perceived to be. Sociology is an academic discipline which teaches skills required for life long learning.