

# GCSE

# SOCIOLOGY



## Contact

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like to find out more information on Sociology at Bosworth Academy using the contact information below:

**Miss L Bushell & Susan O'Dea**

**Bosworth Academy**  
Leicester Lane  
Desford  
Leicester  
LE9 9JL

Tel: **01455 822841** Ext: **312**  
[office@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:office@bosworthacademy.org.uk)



# SOCIOLOGY

**In year 9 Sociology is introduced as an optional 3 year GCSE course. It provides the student with a thorough and objective study of modern society.**

## WHAT IS SOCIOLOGY?

Sociology is the study of Society, the 'social world'. Sociology looks at why society functions like it does and how society influences our behaviour. Sociology is not about simply presenting facts about society, instead it is about different interpretations of those facts and explanations for why they occur.

## HOW USEFUL IS SOCIOLOGY?

Sociology is not just about learning the content of the course; it is about interacting with new ideas and acquiring life skills that help us to develop as people.

Sociology will help you to understand society better and help you to develop a critical awareness of how the world operates.

Sociologists are trained to think critically about the world around them and to construct clear and logical arguments supported by appropriate evidence.

## WHAT WILL I LEARN ON THIS COURSE?

Throughout the GCSE course students will engage with a range of contemporary issues within the following topics:

- Families and Households: Will society benefit from an ageing population? Is there a dominant family type? Is marriage still important?
- Education: Why does the gender gap in educational achievement persist? Does your home background affect educational achievement?
- Research Methods: Is it ever acceptable to research people without their consent? Which research method is most appropriate for studying truancy?
- Mass Media: Does the media have a direct influence on your behaviour? Do the media promote or challenge stereotypes?
- Crime and Deviance: Can crime be beneficial for society? Do we really know how much crime occurs in society?
- Social Inequality: Why are certain groups in society more likely to be in poverty than others? Is social class still important?

“ Whatever sociology may be, it is the result of constantly asking the question, what is the meaning of this?”

C. Wright Mills

## WHAT KIND OF STUDENT IS THIS COURSE SUITABLE FOR?

The subject is not easy and some of the ideas are hard to grasp at first so you must be resilient.

You must also be prepared to:

- Regularly read newspapers and watch the news
- Participate in class discussions
- Produce extended pieces of writing

## HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Assessment is through 2 external examinations, set and marked by the exam board. Each exam includes a range of questions supported by source material.

## WHAT COULD I GO ON TO DO AT THE END OF MY COURSE?

Students with a GCSE in Sociology have access to a wide range of career and further education opportunities.

You might go on to study social science courses such as sociology or psychology at A-Level or you might use the subject to go on to study something very different but where the skills and experiences you have gained are very useful.

You might go into a job related to young people, probation and offending, family/community services, and a variety of other related fields.

