

# SOCIOLOGY

## A Level

### Why Study this course?

- You are open minded and willing to look at familiar things in different ways
- You have an interest in current affairs and the society around you
- You enjoy discussions, debates and have an enquiring minds
- You are a good communicator who enjoys both verbal and written communication in the form of essay writing.
- You want to develop core academic skills such as evaluation and argument.



### Career Progression

- Any career which centres on people - e.g. education, medical care and social work.
- Careers which require a logical mind and a keen critical or evaluative ability such as journalism, law and politics.
- Pathways which require critical thinking with the ability and confidence to voice opinions and challenge the assumptions of others.
- We hope to produce people who will make lots of noise and change the world!

### What You'll Study

#### Year 1:

You'll learn about different sociological theories and how they believe society works. You will also look in detail at certain areas of society and investigate issues such as:

- Why does your ethnicity affect your relationship with the police?
- Why do some students perform better in education than others?
- What makes someone commit a crime?
- Why do women still do more housework and childcare than men?
- Is it acceptable to do research on people without telling them?
- Why have we had an increase in New Age beliefs and religion?

The units are split across three papers which will be studied over two years and assessed by external exams at the end of A2.

- Paper 1: Education and Methods in Context
- Paper 2: Families and Households and Research Methods

#### Year 2:

- Paper 1: Education, Methods in Context and Theory and Methods
- Paper 2: Families and Households and Beliefs in Society
- Paper 3: Crime and Deviance plus Theory and Methods

## Why study Sociology at PWSFC?

### Why I chose Sociology

*"I chose to study Sociology as I was interested in studying the different concepts that make up our society, for example the family and education. Sociology has really taught me to look at society from different perspectives and not just from one side of a view, as I have learnt that many sociologists come up with different theories and explanation for institutions in society, as there is also no wrong or right answer. This has really interested me as I have learnt concepts from different point of views; also I have found it very exciting to learn about factors affecting education for example, such as class, gender and ethnicity. Sociology genuinely leaves you to look at everyday life concepts with a positive and open mind which I think is very important"*

– Hannane

*"I like sociology as the topics studied can be applied to your daily life and it really opens your eyes to how society is structured and focuses on topics that you might never have thought about, for example the inequalities in the education system and why some genders may do better than others. As well as being such an interesting subject the sociology staff are amazing and give you so much support and make sure you achieve your full potential but are always up for a laugh! The same with all subjects you will have to work very hard and revision may be tedious, but with AS sociology being such a unique subject, (most!) of the topics you will study will be interesting to learn...so pick sociology!"* - Lena

### Why Parrs Wood?

- Students have the opportunity to attend exam skills seminars led by Senior Sociology Examiner, Sarah Rushby
- Visit to the Magistrates Courts to see the process of the Criminal Justice System.
- Visit a crime conference to listen to ex offenders about their experiences and motives for crime.
- Merged trips with Psychology to study social behaviour and explore cross curricular links between the subjects.



#### If you like this subject, you may also like:

Psychology, Health and Social Care, Philosophy and Ethics, Religious Studies, Law

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