



# Sociology GCSE

**Teacher in Charge:** Mrs C Phillips  
**Examination Board:** WJEC/EDUQAS

## Overview of course content

Sociology is an interesting and relevant subject that examines and seeks to explain the ways in which individuals and groups interact in contemporary society. Sociology looks at the impact of culture and social organisation on individual lives and students will acquire an understanding of the variety of human cultures. In particular, students will examine, amongst other things, the changing nature of family life, the variety of reasons why some children do well in education whilst others do not, whether the media shapes our lives and what factors affect life chances.

One of the core elements of the course is the development of an understanding of social inequalities relating to gender, ethnicity and class. Students will also learn how sociologists conduct research, how they select samples and the reasons why they choose to use particular research methods to collect data.

**The areas of study are:**

### **Understanding Social Processes - Component 1**

- Key concepts and processes of cultural transmission.
- Families
- Education
- Sociological research

### **Understanding Social Structures Component 2**

- Social differentiation and stratification
- Crime and Deviance
- Applied methods of sociological enquiry

**Some questions that Sociology asks:**

Is the media a source of entertainment or a dangerous tool in the hands of powerful media owners? Does prison work? Are men and women really equal? Why is there so much divorce? What is racism?

## Summary of assessment

<b>Soc 1: Understanding Social Processes</b>	Written examination: 1 hour 45 mins 50% of total mark (exam is taken at the end of Year 11)
<b>Soc 2: Understanding Social Structures</b>	Written examination: 1 hour 45 mins 50% of total mark (exam is taken at the end of Year 11)

## Learning Pathways post 16

This course provides an excellent introduction to many post 16 courses, in particular Sociology Level 3.

### **Grading, awarding and reporting of WJEC Sociology EDUCAS**

EDUCAS GCSE qualifications are reported on a nine-point scale from 1 to 9, where 9 is the highest grade. Results not attaining the minimum strand for the award will be reported as U (unclassified).