



# Curriculum Intent Statement

## SOCIOLOGY

We believe the ability to understand contemporary society is vital in the modern world. Sociology gives students an understanding of the world around them, awareness of the social issues that are faced by many and encourages tolerance of social diversity.

KS5 sociology also gives students the opportunity to learn how to think critically and independently and understand how to conduct research – all skills valued by Higher Education institutions and employers. Students are constantly encouraged to analyse and evaluate the information they are presented with and they will look at different sociological issues from multiple perspectives.

The AQA specification includes the study of multiple aspects of society and looks at these from a range of perspectives. Theories are a key element of sociology and these run synoptically through the course and students are constantly comparing social structure and social action views, which allows them to think about how much influence we have on society. In year 1 students study family and education, which are both areas they have a lot of experience in and can use these experiences to help them understand these core elements of society. Sociology helps students to explain and understand things that affect their lives directly. In year 2 students study beliefs in society and crime and deviance. Studying beliefs helps them to understand the role religion in society, both historically and in modern times and crime allows students to gain an understanding of why people commit crime and how as a society we deal with it through punishment etc. Also, throughout the two years students will study theory and methods, which develops their skills in critical thinking and furthers their understanding of how to practically conduct sociological research.

Sociology is also in line with the school's moral ethos, particularly the core values of respect and compassion as sociology does develop a deep understanding of societal issues and inequality, for example in education students consider why students from certain backgrounds are more likely to underachieve. We also cover broader themes of racism and sexism and consider all the implications of those. We believe that understanding like this allows students to go into the world as more tolerant, respectful and compassionate individuals.

Sociology is a subject which develops multiple skills for the future as it involves the ability to construct extended pieces of writing and so literacy skills are developed throughout the course. Students learn how to effectively use evidence to support your arguments, how to investigate facts, and how to think analytically. It is so relevant to the world around them and gives students a solid understanding of societal issues.

***Aspire not to have more but to be more***

Archbishop Oscar Romero

+ Honourable Purpose + Respect + Compassion + Cooperation + Stewardship +