

# Sociology: Year 10 Curriculum Plan

## Curriculum Intent

Our Year 10 Sociology curriculum aims to develop students' sociological imagination by building a deep understanding of the core concepts, theories, and research methods that underpin the study of society. In the first half term, students will explore **sociological methods and theories** to lay the foundations of the subject. By studying research methods early, students will better understand how sociologists investigate social issues, especially within the **Family** and **Education** topics. This also enables them to engage more effectively with exam questions that require links between methods and specific content areas. Introducing **sociological theories** early on supports long-term knowledge retention, as students will revisit and apply these frameworks throughout the course. As students move into the Family and Education units, they will begin to develop a critical lens through which to analyse the social world, enabling them to interpret and evaluate the structures and institutions that shape their lives. Our long-term curriculum map ensures a progressive build-up of knowledge and skills. By the end of Year 10, students will be able to articulate key sociological perspectives, evaluate evidence, and construct reasoned arguments with confidence. Ultimately, we aim to cultivate informed, empathetic, and socially aware individuals—students who can challenge inequality, appreciate diverse viewpoints, and are well-prepared for Year 11, A-Level study, and beyond.

Year 10	Half Term 1 – Introduction to Sociology	Half Term 2 – Methods and Families and Households	Half Term 3 – Families and Households	Half Term 4 – Education	Half Term 5 – Education	Half Term 6 – Revision and exam preparation
<b>Knowledge Introduced</b>	<p>In the opening term, students will be introduced to the foundations of Sociology. This unit is designed to develop students’ sociological imagination and provide a solid grounding in key concepts, theories, and research methods.</p> <p><u>Topics include:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduction to class, ethnicity and gender</li><li>• Socialisation</li><li>• Nature vs Nurture</li></ul> <p>Students will be introduced to Sociological theory.</p> <p><u>Topics include:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Functionalism and Durkheim</li><li>• Marxism and Marx</li><li>• Feminism</li><li>• Interactionism</li><li>• New Right</li></ul> <p>Students will be learning an introduction to sociological research methods.</p> <p><u>Topics include:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Practical and ethical issues</li><li>• Primary and secondary sources</li><li>• Sampling</li></ul>	<p>Students will finish research methods.</p> <p><u>Topics include:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Statistics</li><li>• Case studies</li><li>• Longitudinal studies</li><li>• Experiments</li></ul> <p>Students will be learning about the sociology of families and households.</p> <p><u>Topics include:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What is a family?</li><li>• Family diversity</li><li>• Nuclear family</li><li>• Alternatives to the family</li><li>• Families in a global context</li><li>• Functionalist view of family</li><li>• Alternative theories of family</li></ul>	<p>Students will finish the families and households.</p> <p><u>Topics include:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Relationships within families</li><li>• Marriage</li><li>• Divorce</li><li>• Conjugal roles</li><li>• Symmetrical family</li><li>• Power and domestic violence</li><li>• Theories of conjugal roles</li></ul>	<p>Students will be learning about the sociology of education.</p> <p><u>Topics include:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Function of education</li><li>• Schools as an agency of socialisation</li><li>• Education and capitalism</li><li>• Comparing different perspectives on education</li><li>• Different types of school</li><li>• Alternative education</li><li>• State and private school</li></ul>	<p>Students will continue learning about the sociology of education</p> <p><u>Topics include:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Educational achievement</li><li>• External/ internal factors</li><li>• Social class and educational achievement</li><li>• Gender and educational achievement</li><li>• Ethnicity and educational achievement</li><li>• Education policies and their possible impact on patterns of achievement</li></ul>	<p>Revision for families, education and research methods.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lessons focused on exam technique.</li><li>• End of year 10 exam will be based around Paper 1 of the specification.</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questionnaires</li> <li>• Interviews</li> <li>• Observations</li> </ul>					
<p><b>Key Vocabulary/Concepts/Ideas students must master</b></p>	<p>Students will be introduced to key sociological terms and concepts, including <b>primary and secondary socialisation, norms, values, roles, status, culture, identity, nature, nurture, social inequality, social class, ethnicity, gender, Functionalism, Marxism, Feminism, hypothesis, pilot study, reliability, validity, objectivity, subjectivity, quantitative and qualitative data, primary and secondary data</b>, as well as <b>practical and ethical issues</b> in sociological research.</p>	<p>Students will explore key sociological terms and concepts including <b>control variables, hypothesis, independent and dependent variables, household, nuclear family, extended family, reconstituted family, lone-parent family, same-sex family, beanpole family, instrumental and expressive roles, communes, kibbutzim, value consensus</b>, and <b>socialisation</b>.</p>	<p>Students will also examine key family-related concepts such as <b>monogamy, same-sex marriage, civil partnership, legal dissolution of marriage, separation, division of labour, domestic roles</b>, and <b>joint conjugal roles</b>.</p>	<p>Students will explore key education-related sociological concepts, including <b>socialisation, social control, skills provision, role allocation, meritocracy, value consensus, hidden curriculum, formal and informal curriculum, ideological status, apparatus, correspondence theory, reproduction of inequality, myth of meritocracy</b>, and <b>cultural capital</b>. They will also examine different types of schools, such as <b>comprehensive schools, grammar schools, academies, free schools, faith schools, specialist schools, independent/private schools, home schooling</b>, and <b>forest schools</b>.</p>	<p>Students will deepen their understanding of factors affecting educational achievement by examining concepts such as <b>material deprivation, cultural deprivation, cultural capital, labelling, the self-fulfilling prophecy, setting and streaming, subcultures, the feminisation of education, the ethnocentric curriculum</b>, and <b>institutional racism</b>.</p>	
CEIAG Links/ Opportunities	<p><b>Careers</b> linked to understanding society, culture, and socialisation include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Worker</li> <li>• Youth Worker</li> <li>• Community Support Officer</li> <li>• Education Roles (Teacher, Teaching Assistant)</li> </ul> <p><b>Transferable skills</b> gained that employers value:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Critical Thinking</li> <li>• Analytical Reasoning</li> <li>• Research and Data Handling</li> <li>• Communication and Interview Skills</li> <li>• Ethical Decision-Making</li> </ul>	<p><b>Careers</b> linked to families and households include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sociologist</li> <li>• Family law solicitor</li> <li>• Youth worker</li> <li>• Community outreach worker.</li> <li>• Social work</li> <li>• Healthcare and safeguarding roles,</li> <li>• Policy making and public services</li> </ul> <p>Additional <b>transferable skills</b> gained that employers value:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communication</li> <li>• Cultural awareness</li> </ul>	<p><b>Transferable skills</b> gained that employers value:</p> <p><b>Same as previous plus</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Empathy and emotional language when studying divorce, conflict and domestic violence.</li> </ul>	<p>Additional <b>careers</b> linked to the education topic include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educational psychologist</li> <li>• Education policy reform.</li> <li>• Non – profit charities focused on education.</li> </ul>	See previous	See previous

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cultural Awareness and Empathy</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Teamwork and discussion</li><li>• Debating</li><li>• Literacy and writing</li></ul>				
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