

## Curriculum implementation

### Year 9

#### **Intent:**

In year 9 we teach Sociology twice a week as part of the pre option. The Sociology department seeks to develop students understanding of social perspectives and theory. We dig a little deeper into the sociological issues that affect everyone, we use the process of debate to encourage views and develop ideas about key social areas. Sociology covers social norms, values and cultures and looks at how different people interact with each other. It helps our students understand diversity, celebrate difference, and respect the cultures and opinions of others. Our expectations of students are high in all areas; we expect them to take pride in their written work and always strive to do their best. In return, we work hard to provide a range of stimulating lessons and offer all students, whatever their ability, the opportunity to maximize their potential.

The aims of the Sociology Department are –

- To provide enjoyment in understanding of cultures in a safe environment.
- To help ALL students gain confidence in their own ability and achieve success.
- To enable ALL students to learn the relevant skills in debating through the exploration of social theory and studies.
- To enable students to develop an appreciation and understanding of different people and different ways of thinking which will lead to more balanced and accepting citizens in society.

**Implementation:** In Sociology we have two lessons per week to deliver this pre option. We cover the foundations of sociology and aim to give students a taste of what the subject is like so that they can decide if they want to take it as a GCSE subject. We cover key sociological concepts in sociology such as norms, values consensus, culture, and division to name a few.

We will also cover the main social theories of sociology that many refer to as the foundations of the subject. This will include ideas from key thinkers who identify as Functionalists (Parsons), Marxists (Marx) and Feminist sociologists (Oakley and Walby).

Many of the topics are interconnected, as they are all part of the social process, so reference is continuously made to other areas. We will also relate the concepts learnt to the four main topics in sociology including families, education, crime and deviance and stratification (poverty).

Term	Year 9 – Pre-Option		
	Topic	Knowledge	Skills/Assessment
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Weeks 1 and 2</p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Weeks 3 to 6</p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Weeks 7 to 10</p>	<p>We start the pre option in Sociology with some general introductions to sociological terms.</p>	<p>These include norms, values, culture, and gender. What is meant by culture and identity?</p>	<p>Short questions to gauge understanding of topics and ideas.</p>
	<p>We then move onto the foundations of sociology and an introduction of further terms.</p>	<p>What is an ethical issue? There is also a focus on the big ideas in sociology such as ideas on conflict and consensus ideology and what drives our sociological imagination.</p>	
	<p>The next part of the pre option is looking at social theory which is the foundation of Sociology.</p>	<p>The key theories researched include Functionalism, Marxism, Feminism and masculism. We have a greater look into each approach and which sociologists are key to the theories.</p>	<p>Comprehension activity based around the different social theories.</p>
	<p>We then move on to looking at some topics covered in sociology through literature extracts. This will include family life, education, crime and social class.</p>	<p>We look at the structure of the family, the changing types, and families around the world. We also focus on the causes of crime; who commits crimes and why. We will cover</p>	<p>Each of the lessons will follow different themes. There will be opportunity to assess each of these topics through questioning techniques and written assessments.</p>

Weeks 11 to 12

education and how these impacts on an individual's life chances. We will complete this part of the pre option by focusing on stratification and what divides us in society with a focus around poverty.

Research based project

During these two lessons we will go over research methods in sociology. The students will get the opportunity to research a topic in sociology, design and questionnaire and complete some of their own sociological research.

The work they complete will be assessed using sociological approaches. We will consider the sample size, types of questions and how valid the research is.

Students will be expected to peer review what each other have done and give feedback.