Sociology

Course Summary
We will follow the AQA specification. You can visit the exam board’s website at www.aqa.org.uk. In Year 12 you will study the following topics: Education, Theory and Methods, Family and Households as well as Methods in Context. During Year 13 you will study: Beliefs in Society, Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods.

Why study this subject?
Sociology provides students with a working knowledge of social processes and social change. Students are encouraged to develop their own social awareness through active engagement with the contemporary social world and will gain a wider range and depth of knowledge and understanding as well as highly developed skills of application, analysis, interpretation and evaluation.

What happens in lessons?
Sociology is taught by subject specialists in a variety of interactive ways ranging from teacher-led presentations, through to group activities, discussion, exam practice and independent study.

Course Assessment
Sociology is a linear course meaning that students who choose to study the A Level are committing to two years. The exam structure is as follows:
- Paper 1 - 2 hours
- Paper 2 - 2 hours
- Paper 3 - 2 hours
All papers include short answers and extended writing.

Entry Requirements: Grade 6 or above in English is desirable due to the written nature of the subject. You do not need to have studied Sociology before, but it is advisable to research the subject to arrive with a basic idea of what you will be studying.

“Fun, interactive and supportive lessons. A good subject to take if you enjoy debating in class, with a wide range of thought provoking topics. Sociology will both expand and challenge your views of the world around you.” Oliver, studying Sociology, Psychology and History.

Reading around the subject
It is important to have a grasp of our ever-changing society. To that end, regularly reading a quality newspaper such as The Guardian, The Times or The Independent, will help.
- Social Class in the 21st Century - Mike Savage
- Watching the English - Kate Fox

What to do afterwards
Most universities offer a Sociology degree as well as related or combination degrees. The subject provides a good insight into the structure of society and the effects of this on the individual, therefore it is a strong basis for careers in social work, the public sector including education and the police force, as well as journalism and research.

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