



STANGROUND ACADEMY

## SOCIOLOGY - INTENT

AQA sociology courses at Stanground Academy encourage students to develop their critical and reflective skills with a focus on social diversity. The courses provide an awareness of **the importance of social structure and social action in explaining social issues**.

GCSE Sociology helps students to gain knowledge and understanding of key social structures, processes and issues through the study of families, education, crime and deviance and social stratification. Students will develop their **analytical, assimilation and communication skills** by comparing and contrasting perspectives on a variety of social issues, constructing reasoned arguments, making substantiated judgements and drawing reasoned conclusions. By studying sociology in years 10 and 11, students will develop transferable skills including how to investigate facts and make deductions, develop opinions and new ideas on social issues and analyse and **better understand the social world**.

The A Level specification is designed to; enable students acquire knowledge and a critical understanding of contemporary social processes and social changes, to appreciate the significance of theoretical and conceptual issues in sociological debate, to understand and evaluate sociological methodology and a range of research methods through active involvement in the research process, develop skills that enable individuals to focus on their personal identity, roles and responsibilities within society and develop a **lifelong interest in social issues**.

As a subject area we want to develop students' interest in and enthusiasm for the subject, including developing an interest in **further study and careers** associated with the subject through discussions of sociology in everyday life, using real to them examples when delivering content. Also, through the use and promotion of TED Talks to stretch their understanding of the subject as a whole. Knowledge retrieval practice is build into schemes of work in order for students to consistently build on previous learning. Assessments take the form of low-stakes testing (sometimes making use of peer and self- assessment) and also longer-term recall is examined through formalised internal examinations.

**The courses are planned to promote independence in every learner**, enabling them to reach their full potential, whilst preparing them for their future, be it Post-16 education, higher education, an apprenticeship or the workplace working with resources on Unifrog and with links to universities such as ARU using visiting speakers to promote careers and HE.