Cornwallis Academy
Ambitions for All

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KS5 Sociology

Curriculum Intent

The Department offers Sociology to Key Stage 5 students. The intent of Sociology is to enable students to gain an interest and a better understanding of the social forces that shape their own lives, so that they will be better equipped to deal with them.

Sociology provides evidence, based on systematic research, to explain how social forces operate, and the ways they may create personal fortune or misfortune. Sociology can provide foundation knowledge about social interactions, organizations and society helpful in the pursuit of careers and a good life for themselves and their families. Sociology can also help young people prepare for specific careers, by studying particular sectors of society and by sharpening the skills needed to be effective in business and public life, such as analytic thinking and problem solving, information gathering and interpretation, and report writing.

The intent of Sociology is also to enhance a student's ability to be an active and informed citizen, able to influence societal choices and policies. Sociology is unique in its recognition not only that societies shape us, but also that we shape our societies. This latter process is present in all societies and all human groups, but is especially central to democracy in which citizens are explicitly expected to participate in shaping their society. The aims of A Level AQA Sociology are similar. The study of Sociology must focus on contemporary society and foster the development of critical and reflective thinking with a respect for social diversity. It must provide an awareness of the importance of social structure and social action in explaining social issues.

Students must be encouraged to develop their own sociological awareness through active engagement with the contemporary social world.
These specifications have been designed with the clear objective of addressing the requirements above and will encourage students to:

- acquire knowledge and a critical understanding of contemporary social processes and social changes
- appreciate the significance of theoretical and conceptual issues in sociological debate
- 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
- develop a lifelong interest in social issues

Assessment, Marking and Feedback

There is a weekly formal assessment, generally consisting of an exam question from a previous paper on the topics recently covered in lessons. Many of these are open book. Students receive detailed feedback, are shown high-quality sample responses and they are given time to improve their responses.
At the end of the first year, students sit AS Level exams and then PPE or mock exams are sat in November of Year 2.
All assessments are marked to A Level criteria and grades.

Homework

Homework tasks are set each week and involve generally in designing a summary sheet of the key ideas presented recently in lessons.

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Links to National Curriculum / Syllabus Specifications

A level Sociology specification - A-level Sociology 7192 | Specification | Specification At A Glance | AQA
AS level Sociology specification -AS Level Sociology 7191 | Specification | Specification At A Glance | AQA

Exam Support & Revision Resources

A variety of resources are demonstrated to students throughout the course and weekly revision sessions take place in lessons. There is also the opportunity for students to attend 1;1 or small group tutoring one afternoon after school each week.

Extracurricular and Enrichment Opportunities

- Academic interventions are made to groups and individual students throughout the course
- Extra-curricular clubs- revision and academic support is available one afternoon each week
- Educational trips and visits – We have a number of trips that are offered including to the Imperial War Museum as part of the Sociology of the Holocaust and to Canterbury Christ Church University. We also have the Police and a Magistrate visit to give talks

Interested to know more?

To read:

- Free Sociology resources | tutor2u

To watch:

- (1916) tutor2u - YouTube