



# ERASMUS DARWIN ACADEMY

*Excellence for All*

## GCSE Sociology

### Aims

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 approaches and perspectives on a variety of social issues, constructing reasoned arguments, making substantiated judgements and drawing reasoned conclusions. By studying sociology, students will develop transferable skills including how to:

- investigate facts and make deductions
- develop opinions and new ideas on social issues
- analyse and better understand the social world.

### The Course

Students will follow the new AQA GCSE course (specification code 8192) and will study key ideas of classical sociologists including Durkheim, Marx and Weber, referencing their view of the world and their contribution to the development of the discipline. Students will also learn how to apply various research methods to different sociological contexts. They will be introduced to sociological terms and concepts concerned with social structures, social processes and social issues. The specification covers the following areas: the sociological approach, social structures, social processes and social issues, Families, Education, Crime and Deviance, Social stratification and Sociological research methods.

### Assessment

Your work will be assessed throughout the course with weekly homework, completing regular research-based activities such as interviews and questionnaires and with regular assessments. The style of these assessments is already familiar to you from your work in the Development Stage. You will sit 2 exams at the end of Year 11. There will be no coursework or controlled assessments.

### Choose this course if..

Many employers now favour potential employees' knowledge of the world around them and the impact potential changes can have. Being able to pre-empt change and find solutions to issues is what being a sociologist entails every day and therefore you can discuss key ideas with evidence to support your points. Even if you don't think you'll directly use Sociology in your work, being aware of the world around you develops a range of skills that employers desire, such as good communication, understanding and appreciation of other cultures, logic, memorisation, dedication and application of knowledge in a variety of situations.

### Post 16 Opportunities and Careers

There is an A-Level course in Sociology which can lead to further study at university; many students now combine Sociology with Psychology, reflecting the increasing importance of society and people's interactions in the world around them. (Other subjects which would complement Sociology: History, Geography, English, Business Studies, Psychology, Politics, Law, Media). Some potential careers using sociological skills include: social work, working for an intelligence agency or in the armed forces, becoming a teacher or a journalist and working in customer service or for a multinational company.

### Exam Board Information



<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/gcse/sociology->

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