*SOCIOLOGY*



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| *The study of society at**BRGS* |

***SOCIOLOGY***

Have you considered the possibility of a new A level subject which offers a stimulating insight into the society in which you live, whilst at the same time providing a qualification which relates to a wide range of qualifications? If so, A level Sociology could be the subject for you.



Remember, at this vital stage in your school career it is essential that you find out for yourself what new disciplines such as Sociology involve. Do not just rely on the opinions and hearsay of others who may know nothing about the subject.

*****What is Sociology?***

Sociology studies many aspects of the society in which we live – for example, the family, education, the mass media, social class, gender, race, youth culture, social identity, crime and deviance, religion, power and politics. It looks at how sociologists gather information about society and the conclusions they draw. It is an academic discipline which requires a knowledge of the work and writings of professional sociologists.



***Sociology at A level***

Sociology, in line with all other A level subjects, has been reorganised to meet with new specifications. Under the new arrangements, A level Sociology is now organised as follows:

 ***Year 1 Sociology***

The content this year consists of component (1) Socialisation and Culture – Families and Culture, and Education and component (2) Methods of Sociological enquiry

***Year 2 – Sociology***

The content in the following year consists of component (3) Power and Stratification– Understanding Crime and Deviance.



***Which subjects are usually studied alongside Sociology?***

Sociology is often taken with other Social Science and Humanities subjects such as Economics, Psychology, Geography, Politics, Media, History, English, Business Studies and RS, although it can be combined with others.



***What use is A level Sociology?***

Sociology relates to a wide range of occupations including careers in social services; education; criminal justice; welfare services; the government; counselling; charities and the voluntary sector. More specific careers include: Barrister, Counsellor, Forensic psychologist, Government research officer, Higher education officer, Housing manager, Market researcher, Journalist, Police officer, Probation officer, Social researcher, Social worker and Solicitor.

***Do I need to have studied Sociology before*?**

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No! However students must obviously be prepared to work hard, read widely, organise carefully and contribute to lessons. Also, the examination requires good written skills and an ability to handle information. It also helps if students follow news and current affairs.

***What do I do next?***

If you still haven’t made up your mind whether Sociology is the subject for you then here are a few things you could do:

* Ask members of staff at the open evening
* Ask pupils who have studied the subject their views about Sociology, not ones who haven’t!
* Take a look at the jobs Sociology can be useful for
* Have a flick through some of the Sociology text books / materials,
* Check out some of the Sociology websites:

http://www.quia.com/ages/sociology/tamara.html

http://www.pomerantz.co.uk

http://www.sociology.org.uk/

http://www.chrisgardner.clara.net/

http://www.homestead.com/rouncefield/frontpage.html

http://www.sociologyonline.co.uk/

www.s-cool.co.uk/default.as

http://www.le.ac.uk/education/centres/ATSS/sites.html

***Teacher***

***Mrs Nelson (Head of Department)***