



Social Sciences
Faculty

Sociology Enrolment Pack



Welcome to Sociology

Welcome to the Sociology department at Wymondham High Sixth Form!

Sociology is ever-growing in popularity at the Sixth Form and we look forward to starting the new A Level course with you in September. The Sociology staff and students are part of the Social Sciences Faculty, which is located in the 'Sauna' (wooden clad building in between middle block and north block).

Mr Mears is the Head of the Social Sciences Faculty (mearss@wh-at.net)

Mrs Garside is a teacher of Sociology (garsidea@wh-at.net)

Mrs Rayner is Teacher in charge of Sociology (raynerz@wh-at.net)

Sociology is taught in M30, and staff will usually be available in here or the Social Sciences office (at the entrance to the sauna) if you need to find us.

The sociology teaching is shared equally between Mrs Rayner and Mrs Garside over the two years.



In order for you to achieve your full potential in Sociology, it is essential that you are organised and prepared for learning every lesson. The information below outlines our expectations for study, from day 1 of your Sociology course.

1. Arrive to lessons on time and with the necessary equipment for the lesson (*folder, textbook, pens, paper etc*)

Please ensure that you have a folder, with dividers, that will be brought to each lesson. This will be used to store all class notes and assessments. We suggest you divide your folder into 4 sections: Course admin and assessment; Culture and Identity; Education; Research methods

2. Undertake all tasks set by the classroom teacher sensibly and responsibly, e.g. note-making, discussion, exam questions.
3. Complete homework tasks by the deadline set – homework tasks are an essential part of your completion of the course, and you will not complete the course without the knowledge and skills gained in homework tasks. This includes essential information over and above that learned in class.
4. Eat/drink outside of lesson time, and have phones put away on silent or switched off.
5. At all times, behave respectfully to all staff and other students.

Extra-Curricular Opportunities

Trips

We are always looking for opportunities to take part in visits that will further enhance the study and understanding of Sociology for our students. This year students have had the opportunity to visit Norwich Magistrates' court to watch live court cases, as well as visiting Norwich Prison's café Britannia for their crime and deviance unit. It is hoped that a visit for the Beliefs unit will also be planned for next year too.

Committee

The Sociology department have a weekly committee in which students work collaboratively on a range of mini-projects across the year. This is an opportunity to further explore the subject through the media and additional research, supported by a y13 subject leader.

Subject Leaders

In year y13, students are able to apply to become subject leaders for the subject. This additional responsibility will allow students to take on a leadership role, facilitating the running of the department and providing mentoring for other students of Sociology.

Tracking and mentoring

Throughout the year, you will be regularly assessed and your progress tracked in class. The department frequently uses exam-style assessments as these are the ones which most accurately reflect how well you are doing and also how to further improve so that you can achieve greatly in your exams.

Tracking and mentoring booklet

- Each student will receive their own copy of this booklet, designed to provide you with useful examination information and to use as a log to track progress.
- An important part of assessment is knowing how to move forward in your learning; this booklet will allow you to record advice and guidance on how to further develop pieces of work and also targets to focus on for future assessments
- In addition to this you will get the opportunity to have 1:1 meetings with your teacher so you can discuss your progress in more detail. Logs of these mentoring sessions will also be recorded in this booklet. Previous students have commented on how useful this has been to them

Further support in your studies

The department hold weekly drop in sessions and focussed study times to help students who may need additional help/guidance in order to progress successfully in the subject. There will also be Y13 subject leaders on hand that will be available to help you with any study difficulties you may have during the course.

Summer transition tasks



When you start your Sociology course in September, you will commence an initial “self and society” project to complete outside of lessons. This has been designed to help you become accustomed to the key concepts and ideas of Sociology. This project will be explained to you in your first lesson(s) of Sociology. In anticipation of this, we suggest **you aim to do some of the things** listed below which will help you feel prepared and get you off to a good start in Sociology:

Read some newspapers/watch the news! Collect a few articles relevant to your year 1 studies (ie. Anything about the family or education that you have found interesting)

Visit some of the websites listed to familiarise yourself with the subjects covered in year 1 Sociology

Listen to a podcast or 2 from “thinking allowed” – these are sociological in nature and often reference studies/concepts that we look at in class

Visit the Forum and find a book on Sociology – give it a read!

