THE WORTHGATE SCHOOL
CANTERBURY

# COURSE DESCRIPTOR

## A LEVEL SOCIOLOGY

### SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Sociology reveals insights about human life by studying people and the societies in which they live. Students enjoy this subject if they are inquisitive, fascinated by the world around them and motivated to find out more. Sociology at Worthgate offers a diverse and challenging range of topics by exploring social research methodologies and theories. Sociology students can acquire sought-after skills in thinking critically and reading intentionally, which they carry with them into other subjects, to university and their adult lives.

### PRIOR LEARNING REQUIRED

An interest in, and a desire to study social life are essential, along with curiosity about the research and problem solving.
Good passes in GCSE subjects or equivalent.
IELTS 5.5 or equivalent.

### EXAM BOARD

AQA

### COURSE CONTENT

| Year 1 | Year 2 |
|---|---|
| **Component 4.1.** – Education with Theories and Methods<br><br>**Component 4.2.1** – Topics in Sociology: Culture and Identity | **Component 4.3** – Crime and Deviance with Theories and Methods<br><br>**Component 4.2.6** – Topics in Sociology: Global Development |

## ASSESSMENT

Formal internal assessments take place once every half term and homework is set on a regular basis.
Grades are determined by three examined modules. Final examinations take place in May/June at the end of the 2-year course.
An end of year exam must be passed for entry to year 2 and a mock exam must be passed for entry into the public exams.

| Paper | Length of paper | Weighting |
|---|---|---|
| Component 1. Education with Theories and Methods | 80 marks<br>2 hours<br>written paper | 33.3% of A level |
| Component 2. Topics in Sociology | 80 marks<br>2 hours<br>written paper | 33.3% of A level |
| Component 3. Crime and Deviance with Theories and Methods | 80 marks<br>2 hours<br>written paper | 33.3% of A level |

## TEXTBOOKS/REVISION GUIDES

| Title | ISBN | Author |
|---|---|---|
| Sociology for AQA Volume 1: AS and 1st-Year A Level | 978-0745691305 | Ken Browne |
| Sociology for AQA Volume 2: 2nd-Year A Level | 978-0745696942 | Ken Browne, Jonathan Blundell, Pamela Law |

Summaries of each unit, your notes and past examination papers will be your major source of revision. There are revision guides available for both AS and A2.

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## HIGHER EDUCATION PATHWAYS

Sociology requires analysis of evidence, decision-making and effective communication, all skills which are highly valued by universities and employers. Sociology is popular with students who wish to read any of the human and social sciences at university and enter careers in a range of industries, including Law, Politics, International Relations, Psychology, Counselling, Marketing, Environmental Policy and Business Management. Previous sociology students have gained acceptance in undergraduate courses in Sociology, Law, Business at prestigious Russell group universities such as LSE and UCL.

## COMPLEMENTARY SUBJECTS OF STUDY

History; Psychology.

## CURRICULUM DIRECTOR

Mr Dims Ashton