The Cardinal Wiseman School
A-Level courses

Sociology

Entry Requirements:

6 x Level 9 to 4 GCSE passes including a level 5 in English Language and a level 4 in Mathematics.

What will I study?

The examination board is AQA. This specification allows students to study a number of key contemporary topics. The Y12 course will include the study of **Families and Households** (What is a family? What are the reasons for the decline in birth rate? Is the division of domestic labour truly equal? How does social policy affect families?), **Education** (Why do girls outperform boys across all levels of education? How can someone's class, gender or ethnicity impact their school performance?), **Research Methods** (What different methods are used to carry out sociological investigations?).

As the course develops, you will also consider, **Sociological theories** (such as Marxism, Feminism and socio-political views such as The New Right), **Crime and Deviance** (What causes crime? What are the consequences of crime on society? Is there a solution to prevent crime?), **The Media** (How has media affected our day to day life and how much of an impact does it have on our society?) and an in-depth exploration of **Research Methods** (What makes research applicable to the wider society and valid?).

What are the examination/coursework requirements?

This is a linear course which involves 3 exam papers at the end of Y13. Each last for 2 hours and are worth 33.3% of the A-level course. The questions consist of: short answer and extended writing questions (4m, 6m, 10m, 20m and 30m).

What skills will I develop?

The course will help you develop a number of key skills:

- How to view the world around you from different perspectives
- How to plan and conduct scientific investigations
- How to analyse and interpret data
- Critical reasoning skills
- How to better understand society and the people within it

How will this subject help me with my future career?

The study of Social Sciences is useful in a wide range of careers as it equips you with the ability to understand people and behaviour, as well as developing critical and communicative skills which are useful in a range of environments and occupations such as: Journalism, Education, Health and social work, Human resources and administration, Social research, Educational/ Clinical/ Forensic or Occupational Psychologist, Counselling, Teaching, Youth work, Market research, Detective, Advertising, Sales, Police and Probation officer, Nursing and the armed forces.



How are lessons organised in Sociology?

A Level Sociology is assessed purely by means of examination and the lessons reflect that. From an early stage, there is an emphasis on tackling examination style questions and a short test follows the completion of each topic. To keep up to date we try to embrace modern media and technology. Students will at points be asked to carry out guided research of their own, prepare presentations, organise debates, among other tasks.

Once you get your results

Sign up for sociology and begin to read about where sociology comes from and what it consists of. This will prepare you well for the years to come.