Sociology – Key Stage 4



Intent

Sociology is the study of social life, social change, and the social causes and consequences of human behaviour. Sociologists investigate the structure of groups, organisations, and societies, and how people interact within these contexts. The curriculum offered to pupils at BBG allows them to actively develop this knowledge through theory-based learning and application of knowledge, pupils are encouraged to critically evaluate the world in which they live in and make connections between sociological theory and relevant current affairs. Sociology is not currently offered to students in years 7 or 8 but is an option that can be taken at GCSE level. In GCSE Sociology, pupils follow the AQA specification, looking at factors that impact the changing nature of families, the education system and responses to crime and deviance.

Term	Year 10 or 11 One Year Option		
	Topic	Knowledge	Skills
Term 1	Families Education	 Different types of families, sociological theories on the family, alternatives to the family, families in a global context – Kibbutz and communes, roles of family members, marriage, divorce, consequences of divorce, conjugal roles, the symmetrical family. Different types of schools, alternative education, sociological theories on education, educational policy, educational achievement, social class/gender/ethnicity and educational attainment, internal and external factors affecting achievement 	Identifying, describing and explaining key sociological concepts, applying sociological theory, justifying and evaluating key studies and theories, interpretation of data, global knowledge of different communities, understanding of political impact on society
Term 2	Crime and deviance Social Stratification	 Measuring crime, the social construction of crime and deviance, sociological theories on crime and deviance, factors affecting behaviour, social class/gender/age/ethnicity and crime, agents of social control, the prison system, treatment of young offenders, media reporting of crime Social mobility, poverty, relative depravation, welfare state, underclass, globalisation, power relationships, patriarchy 	Identifying, describing and explaining key sociological concepts, applying sociological theory, justifying and evaluating key studies and theories, interpretation of data, global knowledge of different communities and legal systems, understanding of political impact on society
Term 3	Social Stratification Revision and exam technique	 Political power, Karl Marx, Max Weber Research methodologies, extended writing structures, key concepts, key studies and theorists 	Identifying, describing and explaining key sociological concepts, applying sociological theory, justifying and evaluating key studies and theories, interpretation of data, global knowledge of different communities and legal systems, understanding of political impact on society