



## OPTION SUBJECT GCSE SOCIOLOGY

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**Examination Board**

**EDUQAS - Graded 1 – 9**

Put simply Sociology is the study of society. Sociology seeks to understand all aspects of human behaviour including the dynamics of small groups of people, large organisations, communities and even entire societies.

Sociology asks questions about the relationships between groups in society and explores issues of identity, inequality and power. Sociology allows students to see their world in a different way and to challenge taken for granted assumptions about the way we live. It is the study of group life and human social relationships, while Psychology look more at the individual Sociology examine how we behave as part of a wider group and how wider society shapes us.

Studying Sociology will enable learners to investigate topics such as gender roles in modern society, inequalities in wealth and the UK as a multi-cultural Society. Sociology seeks answers to questions such as: How do social changes affect us? Are a secret powerful elite controlling us? Do exam results really reflect ability? Is our society really fair?

**Component 1:** Understanding Social Processes (Written examination 50% of qualification, 1 hour 45 min)

- How do we acquire our identity?
- How do our family, education and friends shape us?
- What is the most powerful influence on our identity?
- How do we research into inequalities within society?

**Component 2:** Understanding Social Structures (Written examination 50% of qualification, 1 hour 45 min)

- Who are the most powerful people in society?
- What advantages do some groups of people have?
- Why do some people turn to crime?
- Are some people getting away with crime?

The study of practical research methods is also included in both units, with questions on the design of studies.

GCSE Sociology can lead on to the study of any Social Science subjects in the sixth form - *A-level Psychology, A-level Sociology, BTEC Health Care Studies and Diploma in Criminology*. It is also an incredibly versatile subject and is beneficial for any career where you need to work with and influence people. Particularly good examples would be; advertising and marketing, criminal justice, human resources and Journalism.