

Curriculum information for Sociology Year 11

Which exam board and course are used?	AQA GCSE Sociology (8192)
What curriculum topics are being covered this year?	1) Crime and Deviance 2) Social Stratification
How many exams have students got and what is covered in each one?	External exams: 2 x 1hr 45mins. Both exams will be sat at the end of the year. The first exam will test knowledge on Families and Education. The second exam will test knowledge on Crime and Deviance and Social Stratification. Sociological theory and research methods run through all sections of the course and will therefore be tested on both papers within the 4 sections mentioned above. Internal tests: TBD. Both the Crime and Stratification sections will be assessed through internally marked End of Topic Tests. These will be in the form of 50-minute tests comprised of questions taken from previous exam papers. These will be completed in exam conditions (timed, in silence, without prior knowledge of the questions themselves). Students will be given several weeks warning that the test is approaching. Additionally, students will sit at least one complete “mock” exam which will take 1 hour 45 minutes to complete.
What should students be focusing on?	The main difficulty that GCSE students face is the sheer amount of content that needs to be learned. Students are strongly advised to begin their revision immediately and put together revision notes/posters/mind maps throughout the year rather than leaving it until a few weeks before the exams. Students should pay particular attention to: • The ideas of key theorists (these will be clearly marked in their booklets). • Key debates within each section (which will often be tested as 12-mark essay questions). • The application of research methods to the study of society.
What is the best way for parents to support students in this subject?	• Test them on the contributions of key theorists. Information on these can be found in your child’s content booklets. Look for “Key Theorist: <name>”. • Test them on their knowledge of key terms. Students will be provided with a glossary of key terms and definitions for each section of the course. • Ensure that your child is revising for end of topic tests.
What websites and resources would be helpful? What wider reading would be helpful?	• There are no particularly good websites for GCSE sociology since it is not offered in every school around the country. Furthermore, as this is a new specification, most online resources are no longer applicable. • Students have been provided with everything that they need in the form of content booklets. For each of the main topic areas, they will

Where can I get resources?	have 3 booklets of information. In addition to this, they will be given a key terms booklet as well as an “exam questions booklet” containing exam questions which will be completed for homework. • In addition to physical copies of these booklets, all materials have been uploaded to Microsoft Teams and can be accessed remotely.
Have previous students got any tips or advice for this subject?	“Don’t leave it until the last minute!” “Make sure you keep refreshing your knowledge of research methods – there are so many questions on these.” “Ask your teachers for help when you need it and don’t just miss out questions you don’t know the answer to.” “Watch the clock when you’re doing exam questions. Don’t rush through the shorter ones, but also make sure you’re giving yourself enough time for the essays.”