

### Ark Acton Sociology Curriculum Map

<p>What is the purpose of studying Sociology at Ark Acton?</p>	<p>The purpose of sociology, as with all sciences, is to uncover that which is hidden. Sociology students study and participate in the science of society. Sociologists shape our everyday lives without us even realising it. They have the power to influence governments and social policies, everything from how football crowds are managed by the police to how much tax we have to pay has been determined by a social scientist. Studying sociology will answer many questions students have about society and how humans behave and interact. Sociology celebrates and promotes diversity, students of sociology develop an understanding of cultural and religious differences and similarities and they examine in detail how an individual's gender, ethnicity and social class interact and impact upon their life chances.</p> <p>The sociology department will equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to meet the challenges of the twenty-first century. We are living through a period of rapid and profound change and being a graduate of a sociology means the future won't just happen to our students, they will shape it!</p>
<p>Where does Sociology lead after Ark Acton?</p>	<p>Studying sociology at Acton will support applications for a wide range of degree courses and careers. Students have used their sociological understanding to successfully apply to Russell Group universities to study law, politics, criminology, international relations, forensic science, philosophy, economics and psychology. Studying sociology is evidence that students are able to think critically, decode and review evidence and engage in the research process. A sociology qualification provides the knowledge and skills to critically engage with key issues facing contemporary societies including globalisation; the changing nature of work and the family; gender roles and sexuality; multiculturalism; the impact of the media and information technologies; and new forms of politics.</p>
<p>What is the narrative of study at KS5?</p>	<p>Students studying A level Sociology begin by studying sociological research methods and the education system. Within the first unit of learning looks at the role and function of the education system, links between social class, ethnicity, gender and attainment and development of educational policy. Students follow this by looking at the evolution of the family both in Britain and globally and this allows them to examine the causes and consequences of social change. A key theme of the first year of study is the assessment of the aims, implementation and evaluation of social policy. In the second year of study students look at the impact of beliefs in society and crime and apply the core themes from year one to these topics. Students finish the course with a solid understanding of sociological theories including Marxism, Interactionism, Feminism, Functionalism and the New Right, by this stage students are able to think critically about the theories and research they are presented with.</p>

What is the narrative of study at KS4?

Students in year 10 study sociology for the first time, they learn to understand the purpose of research and how the role of a sociologist differs from that of a psychologist, journalist or natural scientist. They examine the strengths and limitations of quantitative and qualitative data and how a sociologist uses this data to provide solutions for social problems. They develop an understanding of political and economic history through the ideas of key thinkers or philosophers. Students begin to develop an understanding of social processes, the significance of class, gender and ethnicity and the difference between conflict and consensus viewpoints. In year 11 they enhance this understanding and apply this knowledge to topics such as crime and deviance and social inequality.

Ark Acton Curriculum Map						
	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
<b>Year 13</b>	<p><b>How does crime shape society?</b></p> <p>This unit will allow students to explore the role and function of crime in society. Students will investigate sociological explanations of crime, deviance, social order, patterns and trends in crime, media involvement, the criminal justice system, and other agencies.</p>	<p><b>Methods in Context - Crime</b></p> <p>In this unit, we apply practical, theoretical and ethical issues to the crime justice system. We consider types of data and a range of research methods used by sociologists to study society in a scientific way.</p>	<p><b>How do sociologists define 'religion'?</b></p> <p>This unit will allow students to explore discussions around religion and its influence in society. Students will investigate sociological theories of religion, religion as a force for social change, secularisation, religion in a global context and debates surrounding ideology and science.</p>	<p><b>Continuation from Spring 1</b></p>	Exam prep	NA
<b>Year 12</b>	<p><b>How do sociologists shape the lives of us all?</b></p> <p>We consider the role of sociologists</p>	<p><b>Does the education system facilitate or prevent social mobility?</b></p>	<p><b>Are we witnessing the privatisation of education?</b></p> <p>Across the world we are witnessing</p>	<p><b>Will the nuclear family disappear?</b></p> <p>We imagine how the family unit will differ in the future</p>	<p><b>Methods in Context - Education</b></p> <p>In this unit, we apply practical, theoretical and</p>	Summer mock preparation

	<p>in solving social problems. We look in depth at the relationship between social thought, social research and social policy. We examine the ways in which Sociology is not a homogenous discipline. Sociology is continuously evolving and as we progress into the 21<sup>st</sup> century the views of key contributors are increasingly polarised. Functionalists see society as based on consensus and cooperation. Marxists and Feminists see society as based on division and exploitation.</p>	<p>Most people are told as children that if they work hard in school, they will do well and get a good job. We integrate this claim and look at how far evidence suggests that the education system facilitates progress for all.</p>	<p>monumental changes to how education is designed, funded and delivered. We investigate this process and question whether education is still seen as a right that a government must uphold, or is it increasingly seen as business opportunity.</p>	<p>by examining how it has evolved. We consider how the structure of the family supports the current economic system and whether it really benefits all its members. Will the nuclear family be replaced by an alternative?</p>	<p>ethical issues to the education system. We consider types of data and a range of research methods used by sociologists to study society in a scientific way.</p>	
<b>Year 11</b>	<b>Who commits crime? Who gets caught?</b>	<b>Is society more dangerous now than 50 years ago?</b>	<b>Why does poverty exist?</b>	<b>Is Britain more meritocratic than other countries?</b>	Exam prep	NA

	<p>We consider how far official statistics give an accurate and complete account of the level and nature of crime committed. Sociologists have asked does the justice system really provide what it intends to or is your social class and ethnicity more of a factor in your trial than your innocence or guilt?</p>	<p>The media would have us believe that there is danger on every corner and children today need to be kept in doors for their own safety. The sociological evidence suggests that this is not entirely true. We explore how society has changed and whether or not we really are at a greater risk from crime than in the past.</p>	<p>Most people agree that poverty is not something that a society should welcome but does it actually serve a purpose? Who is to blame for poverty and is the solution really communism?</p>	<p>Britain provides free education and free healthcare for all. It is illegal to discriminate against someone based on their gender, race or sexuality but does this mean that are success and failure depend on merit alone?</p>		
<b>Year 10</b>	<p><b>Is Sociology a science?</b></p> <p>The role of the sociologists is different to the role of a journalist, a natural scientist and a psychologist. The language of</p>	<p><b>How do sociologists solve social problems?</b></p> <p>Sociology is a theoretical discipline but the work of a sociologist has far reaching applications and implications. We</p>	<p><b>Is the nuclear family good for everyone?</b></p> <p>Functionalists argue that only the nuclear family can truly meet the needs of the individual and society. The nuclear family</p>	<p><b>What will families be like in the future?</b></p> <p>It has long been accepted that the nuclear family is the norm and that it is the most appropriate environment for</p>	<p><b>Why do we go to school?</b></p> <p>Education has many overt and obvious benefits. What is more interesting to sociologists is the education system's latent functions. Is</p>	<p><b>Is success or failure down to intelligence?</b></p> <p><b>If you are from a working class background you are half as likely to progress to higher education than those from</b></p>

	<p>sociology is explored, and we grapple with abstract concepts such as the ‘sociological imagination’ and the purpose of sociology as well as examining methodology.</p>	<p>consider the links between sociological thought and our everyday lives.</p>	<p>provides for us emotionally and economically. Feminists provide strong evidence to the contrary.</p>	<p>children to be raised in. This view is being challenged and some argue that contemporary family life is characterised by diversity and choice.</p>	<p>it designed to provide a route out of poverty or to perpetuate inequalities? Is there a case for ‘de-schooling’?</p>	<p><b>a middle class background. We examine possible causes by looking at factors within schools and wider society.</b></p>
--	---	--	---	---	---	---