



January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

## Year 11 Sociology

Thank you for your ongoing support for our year 11 sociologists as they complete the GCSE syllabus and prepare for their second mocks next month. I am writing to make you aware of:

1. **Changes to the assessment of GCSE sociology in 2022**
2. **Support available within school**
3. **Support you can provide at home**

### 1. Changes to the assessment of GCSE sociology in 2022

Unlike some other subjects, **no content has been cut** from the sociology syllabus for this year's GCSE exams. AQA will make available 'advance information' by Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February, which I will share with the students and factor into our revision. It is important that students understand this will not be a 'magic bullet'! It will comprise a list of topic areas for the higher tariff questions (which I understand to be 12-mark questions), but topics not included on the list may still be assessed in any of the shorter questions across the two papers. This means that students must be taught, and revise, the entire GCSE sociology syllabus, so it is vital that they maintain good attendance and homework habits between now and the exam season.

#### Exam dates for 2022:

- **Paper 1 (Families and Education): Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May pm**
- **Paper 2 (Crime & Deviance and Social Stratification): Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June pm**
- Each exam is 1 hour 45 minutes long (100 marks) and worth 50% of the qualification
- Research methods are examined across both papers and applied to the main topics
- Further information on the syllabus: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/gcse/sociology-8192/specification-at-a-glance>

### 2. Support available in school:

- Weekly, after-school revision sessions take place on **Thursdays, 2.40pm–3.20pm in C01**. These are open to all year 11 students and will focus on revising key content and honing exam skills ahead of the February mocks.
- Students who are absent due to Covid/other illness should receive an email from me on, or soon after, the day of absence with lesson resources attached, to enable them to catch up when they are well enough to do so. If not, they should contact me directly to ask for missed work.
- Revision resources for the two topics that will be examined on the February mock paper (**Education and Social Stratification**) are now available on the google classrooms, including sample papers, knowledge organisers and links to revision videos:



- **11C Sociology:** <https://classroom.google.com/c/Mzg4NDYzODA2MDQz>
- **11D Sociology:** <https://classroom.google.com/c/Mzg4NDY0OTA5MDQ0>
- All students have been given a **booklet of key studies** for each of the topics examined at GCSE (Families, Education, Crime & Deviance, Social Stratification); we have worked on these together during lessons and the completed booklets should be a valuable revision resource. Pdf versions are also available on the google classroom (or by email from Ms Porter) if further copies are needed. A lists of all 25 key studies is on the AQA website:  
<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/gcse/sociology-8192/appendix-b-texts-and-summaries>
- I am also available for students to drop in to C01 and see me (Tuesday to Friday), or to email me, if they have individual questions or concerns.

### 3. Support you can provide at home

- Ensure **good attendance and homework habits**. All homework that I set should be attempted in full, to the best of the student's ability, and submitted on time. Homework tasks are always set on both the google classroom and on Show My Homework; **it is the students' responsibility to monitor both regularly**. It is not a good use of either mine or the students' time to have to set detentions for incomplete homework.
- Talk to your child about what they are learning in sociology. We are currently studying the **social stratification topic**, including social class, power and inequality, factors affecting life chances and social mobility. Discussion at home can help the students to recall their learning, work through their own ideas and apply their sociological knowledge to real-world examples. Look out for any age-appropriate films or documentaries that may support your student's learning.
- Encourage your child to use their **Collins revision guide** to make revision notes, complete practice questions and to identify any trouble-spots they need to discuss with me in school.
- Encourage your child to use **Seneca learning** as a revision tool. This is available via the school VLE and provides good, basic coverage of the GCSE syllabus via the year 11 Sociology class I have created. They need to **use their school login** to access it using this code:

**[app.senecalearning.com/dashboard/join-class/lyyq1dhypn](http://app.senecalearning.com/dashboard/join-class/lyyq1dhypn)**

I hope you will find this information and these suggestions helpful and look forward to working with the students as we complete the GCSE course. Please do not hesitate to contact me at [mporter@sackvilleschool.org.uk](mailto:mporter@sackvilleschool.org.uk) if you have any queries or wish to discuss anything further with me.  
Yours sincerely

Ms M Porter

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