Overview
Sociology is an exciting subject that challenges your everyday experiences. It is the study of the relationship between the individual and society. Have you ever wondered why people exhibit certain behaviour? How do we become the people that we are? Sociology provides an opportunity to develop a better understanding of the social world, by examining social influences, such as, families, schools, friends, and the media. Consideration of how and why such groups and institutions function enables students to explore how individuals both create society and are created by it.

This demanding and fun course aims to develop valuable academic and social skills. It is highly valued and prepares students for a variety of courses in Higher Education which include Law, Politics, Criminology, Social Policy, Nursing and Journalism to name but a few. In fact, any career that involves the interaction of people is one that would benefit from sociological insight! Critical awareness, political literacy and informed opinion are encouraged with the ultimate aim of developing the whole person.

Structure

AS
Research Methods
- We investigate how Sociologists do their social research. Do they use quantitative or qualitative methods? What sources of data do they use? What practical, ethical and theoretical issues do researchers have to consider?

Education
- Theoretical perspectives on education and the role it plays in society. What is the social distribution of achievement? Do all social groups do equally as well at school? What influence do teacher/student relationships have on performance? What government policies influence educational provision?

Work, Poverty and Welfare
- We seek to understand the nature, existence and persistence of poverty in contemporary society. Which social groups experience poverty? Which social groups experience affluence? The significance of work and worklessness for people’s lives and life chances

A-Level
Pure Social Theory
- We explore all the big social theories that seek to understand and explain human behaviour; consensus, conflict, structural and social action theories.

Crime and Deviance
- Theoretical perspectives on crime and deviance, including punishment and control. Who commits crime and why do they do it? What impact does globalisation have on the nature and extent of crime?

Global Development
- What are the differences and divisions in the world? Why does global inequality exist and how should humanity deal with it?