



SMSC Statement - Sociology

Spiritual Development in Sociology

The focus of Sociology is thinking about various aspects of human society and the social institutions that make up society. Students are encouraged to debate the various aspects of contemporary society, considering all viewpoints. One unit of A Level Sociology is 'Beliefs' and looks at how beliefs can impact on social change or stability

Examples of good practice:

- Studying the features of church organisations, denomination, cult and sects across cultures
- Creating questionnaires to investigate the impact of beliefs and ideology on the individual.
- Exploring and debating the impact of globalisation of belief systems.
- Assessing the extent and growth of secularisation and its link to fundamentalism

Moral Development in Sociology

Ethical issues within sociological research is an A level and GCSE syllabus topic in itself. Students must be familiar with ethical guidelines for research as issued by the British Sociological Society and put these into practice during project work. The unit 'Crime and Deviance' provides an in-depth coverage of the UK penal system and the impact of crime on victims. This provides plenty of time for discussion of crime in general and the criminal justice system

Examples of good practice:

- Knowledge of possible ethical conflicts in research
- Examples of poor practice
- Knowledge of BSS guidelines

Social Development in Sociology

The nature of the subject encourages appreciation of different viewpoints. Students are encouraged to work together to solve problems and take part in research projects as part of a team. The A Level and GCSE syllabus topic of 'Crime and Deviance' involves in depth study of the British legal system.

Examples of good practice:

- Use national statistical data to look at both national and local crime rates.
- Describe the workings of the legal system
- Have external workshops delivering

Cultural Development in Sociology

Many of the topics covered within the syllabus explore cultural differences. Display work covers a diverse range of cultures

Examples of good practice:

- Explore and debate the cultural differences in families and households Differences in educational achievement – cultural, gender, class
- Using statistics to explore cultural differences in criminal activity.
- Explaining criminal activity by looking at the role of the criminal justice system