



Church of England School
Headteacher: Mr A J Wilcock MA (Cantab)

14th July 2016

Dear Parent/Carer

GCSE Sociology

GCSE Sociology is a very content-driven course. The students are exposed to huge amounts of new knowledge, concepts and theories that they will need to be able to recall in May 2017. Having just marked the Year 10 exams, it has become apparent that recall is a problem. Whilst many are able to describe and explain in a general way, subject specific concepts and theories were missing making their answers more commonsensical rather than Sociological. In addition, the lack of awareness of current affairs meant that real life examples needed to develop their answers and enable marks into the higher bands were missing.

As a result, we would ask that over the summer holidays all students learn the words on the concept lists ([available on both Fronter and <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/gcse/specification-4190/teaching-and-learning-resources>](http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/gcse/specification-4190/teaching-and-learning-resources)) for both the 'Families and Households' and 'Education' topics (Unit 1) so that when they return in September they can focus on the Year 11 topics. In addition, we would encourage all students to be familiar with current news events that are happening. This might be through reading a newspaper, watching the news or through social media. If we can work together to encourage this behaviour to become a habit, the pressure will be reduced when it comes to revision next summer.

If you have any questions or queries, or would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

Ms A Murphy
Head of Sociology
Head of Social Studies Faculty



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