

## **SOCIOLOGY**

### **WHY SOCIOLOGY?**

This exciting and expanding subject is offered at Higher level for S6 pupils only. The course investigates a number of areas relevant to modern life. These include: class, deviance, poverty and education. Learning is by way of discussion and group investigation.

The aim of sociology at Higher is to develop a knowledge and understanding of sociological concepts, theories and methods and their distinctive approach to the analysis and explanation of substantive areas of society. It will promote the ability to interpret, analyse and evaluate sociological arguments, evidence and research methods in a critical way.

### **WHO CAN TAKE SOCIOLOGY?**

This is a fascinating subject but is also academically challenging. In order to take the course, you must gain a pass in Higher English in S5. If you have not taken Higher English in S5, you must be predicted to gain an A or a B in Higher History or Modern Studies.

### **COURSE CONTENT**

The introduction to Sociological theory takes place in June. This opens up 'the sociological imagination' and introduces you to ideas about the society we live in. The investigation of sociological theories continues in August and initially covers Marxism, Functionalism, Feminism, Neo-Marxism, Weberianism and Symbolic Interactionism. The course also investigates Sociological research methods.

During the course, we will undertake an in-depth study of social stratification and the sociology of education. We will also study culture and identity, looking at how cultures and subcultures are formed and the processes through which our (not-so) individual identities are shaped

There is an assignment which makes up 27% of the overall mark and an external exam in June which makes up 73% of the overall mark.

**Further advice and information is available from Mr MacKay, Mrs Slavin or Mrs Reid.**