

St Mary Redcliffe and Temple 6th Form



Year 11 into 12 transition task

Subject: Sociology

SMRT 6th Form gives students the chance to study new subjects that they have not experienced at GCSE. We want to ensure that everybody who has chosen such a subject has a good understanding of it involves so that they don't find themselves having to swap within the first few weeks or stuck with something that turns out not to be what they expected.

We have therefore set you a simple task to complete, which you should bring with you to your first lesson. It shouldn't take you too long, but there are more resources suggested that you could look at if you want to get deeper in to the subject before you start.

Before the start of term you should:

Task 1

Start exploring real life examples of some of the areas we study in Sociology.

Read through the short descriptions of the topics below and pick **two** topics. Your challenge is to find **one** real life example that links to each of the topics you have chosen. This could be a news article, a recent event or a current issue. Summarise and print what you have found so that you can share your findings in your first Sociology lesson.

1. **Social inequalities:** What inequalities are there in society today? Examples could include: ethnicity (majority and minority ethnic groups), gender (masculinity and femininity), social class (middle, working, upper) and age (young and old).
2. **Media:** How are different genders, age groups, ethnic groups and classes represented in the media, both positively and negatively? Are these representations accurate? Media can include TV, music, films and the news.
3. **Globalisation and the digital social world:** How does social media affect us? Think about positive and negative effects on relationships, identity and inequalities.
4. **Crime and deviance:** How does crime link to ethnicity, gender, social class or age? What are the main causes of crime? What is the best way to reduce crime?

Task 2

One of the first topics you will study in Sociology focusses on identity. Identity refers to how you see yourself and how other people see you. In this topic, we explore different aspects of identity and how our identities are created.

To get you thinking about this, your second task is to produce a mind map or poster about your identity. This should include different aspects of your identity such as:

- Gender
- Age
- Ethnicity
- Class

Consider how each of these aspects applies to your own identity and how important each part of your identity is to you. You should also think about how your identity has been created and shaped over time. Consider the impact of the following things on your identity:

- Family
- Peers
- Education
- The media

Display your thoughts in a creative way, using colour and images.

If you want to find out a bit more about Sociology...

If you fancy buying a book, a great introduction to Sociology is – *The Sociology Book: Big Ideas Simply Explained*, by Chris Yuill, Christopher Thorpe, Marcus Weeks, Megan Todd, Mitchell Hobbs, and Sarah Tomley

These YouTube videos also introduce some key ideas in Sociology:

Intro to Sociology: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YnCJU6PaCio>

Sociological theory: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DbTt_ySTjaY

Research methods: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QwhK-iEyXYA&t=72s>