

DEPARTMENT INFORMATION – SOCIOLOGY
TEACHER OF SOCIOLOGY

We are looking for an exceptional teacher to join our excellent team of Social Sciences teachers. You may have a background in Sociology or Psychology. We are advertising separately for each specialism and will appoint the best candidate from across those subjects to one full time post. The exact nature of the role will, therefore, depend on your experience and expertise.

The Sociology Department

Stratford upon Avon School's Sociology Department consistently ranks among our top-performing subjects at GCSE and A Level. The numbers of students taking GCSE and A Level Sociology continues to grow, reflecting the interest in the subject among our students and their high regard for the teaching of the subject at our school. You will, therefore, be joining a successful and growing team.

The Sociology Department currently consists of four subject specialists. The Subject Leader is passionate about Sociology and dedicated to the continuous improvement of the subject, its curriculum, its teaching and its resources. They are ably supported by three other teachers with significant or exclusive deployment to Sociology, all holding whole-school leadership roles. We are supported by other members of the Humanities Faculty teaching Year 9 Sociology.

Sociology Curriculum

You will find the Sociology curriculum, and all associated resources, to be comprehensively and expertly planned. You will be expected to play a key role in further developing this alongside the rest of the team.

We deliver a three-year Key Stage 4 curriculum following the AQA course and currently have 6 teaching groups in Year 9 and 5 in each of Years 10 and 11. The Year 9 Scheme of Work provides a foundation year to develop sociological knowledge and skills including 'The Sociological Approach' and 'Sociological Research Methods'. In Year 10 we focus on 'The Sociology of Families' and 'The Sociology of Education' whilst, in Year 11, we study 'The Sociology of Crime and Deviance' and 'Social Stratification'.

At A Level we also follow the AQA course. There are 2 groups in each of Years 12 and 13, and Sociology is consistently at the top of the 'most popular' list of A Level subjects. In Year 12 we study, 'Families and Households', 'Education', and 'Sociological Research Methods'. In Year 13, students move on to 'Crime and Deviance', 'The Media', and 'Theories and Methods'.

Humanities Faculty

The Sociology Department is part of the Humanities Faculty. This includes the subjects of Citizenship, French, Geography, History, Politics, Spanish and SPHERE. It is likely to soon include GCSE Religious Studies. We currently have 23 teachers delivering a range of subjects within the faculty. Leadership is provided by a Humanities Curriculum Leader as well as Subject Leaders for History, Geography, Social Sciences, MFL and SPHERE.

The successful candidate will find a supportive and nurturing group of colleagues, keen to support you. We can also provide the opportunities and freedoms for you to gain the experience required to support your progression.

Though the team, its resources and systems are well-established and successful, we are looking forward to the new ideas and perspectives you will bring. We are constantly seeking to develop and improve our curriculum, resources, and teaching practice. We expect the successful applicant will play a leading role in this continuous improvement, with the opportunity to gain the experience required to support a future application to leadership roles.

There are currently 18 dedicated Humanities classrooms. All classrooms have a projector or interactive screen and audio facilities. In addition, it is possible to book computer rooms as needed. We occupy 2 'resource bases' where staff have access to quiet working areas, and other resources.

The school offers a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities, and any new member of staff would be most welcome to take part in the existing extra-curricular provision or offer other opportunities for students. There are a number of visits and residential trips offered by the Humanities faculty, and the successful candidate would be expected to contribute to the running of some of these.

Conclusion

We are looking to strengthen our team by employing an exceptional Sociology Teacher who has high standards, wants to be part of – and contribute to – a dedicated and hard-working team, and the drive to support our students whilst developing their own practice. This is an exciting opportunity for the right person to develop their career. I look forward to receiving your application.

Ben Moore, Subject Leader Sociology, Citizenship & Politics
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