

Intention of Sociology

Sociological knowledge is empowering knowledge. The curriculum seeks to develop a keen sociological imagination with which to think reflexively and critically about their place in the global community. Sociology at MV16 aims to challenge assumptions through the exploration of a broad range of historical and contemporary social issues. Students will be equipped with the relevant skills needed to find solutions to social problems and in doing so will develop their political literacy.

Sociologists ask exciting questions such as 'Has rationalisation led to secularisation?' 'Is feminism still relevant?' and 'How are societies created, reproduced and sustained over time?' This sparks a natural sense of enquiry where learners can explore the social, political, cultural and economic forces which shapes the world in which we inhabit. Learners are provided with a safe space to build confidence and resilience through exploration of live within in their local communities and beyond. For example, students are given opportunities to challenge their own views on topics debated in society and learn to evaluate evidence, think critically and craft arguments. Attributes all of which are highly valued by universities and employers in the knowledge-based economy.

Students who study Sociology at Melton Vale develop a detailed understanding of the social world through learning classical and contemporary social theories and through the acquisition of practical social research methods skills. These are skills which allow students to succeed in adult life.

The course is designed to nurture thoughtful and motivated individuals who are empowered to make a positive contribution to society. The subject is relatable to learners' own experiences, allowing opportunity for reflection on collective and personal history. The curriculum is designed to create curious, motivated individuals who will have a greater sense of diversity and understanding of class, gender, ethnic and sexual diversity and of the role and purpose of key institutions. Understanding shared history helps learners to understand their own identity, therefore empowering students to become active social citizens.

Students who study Sociology go on to work in a broad range of careers and are likely to take professional roles in the public, private and voluntary sector were their strategic skills and ability to analyse different sources of data are highly utilised. This is reflected in the high number of students who go on to study a social science related field at university (2021 = 18).