

Raising aspirations – Sociology

At Ormiston Bushfield Academy, we believe every student should have the opportunity to explore, question, and critically engage with the subject of sociology. This page offers a carefully curated selection of books, websites, and podcasts designed to broaden your sociological imagination; deepen your understanding of social structures, culture, and inequality; and help you see the ways sociology shapes everyday life. Whether you're looking for your next thought-provoking read, a new intellectual challenge, or insights into the work of real sociologists—you'll find resources here to spark curiosity and raise aspirations. Here are a few fiction and non-fiction pieces to get you thinking about Sociology.

Suggested Reading list

KS3 (years 7-9)

- *The Diary of a Young Girl* – Anne Frank (identity, culture, social norms) [schoolread...list.co.uk]
- *Refugee Boy* – Benjamin Zephaniah (migration, inequality) [schoolread...list.co.uk]
- *The Giver* – Lois Lowry (utopia, social control)

KS4 (years 10-11)

- *When Our Worlds Collided* – Danielle Jawando (race, inequality, youth culture). [booknookuk.com]
- *Orangeboy* – Patrice Lawrence (crime, identity, urban life). [ravenswood...ley.sch.uk]
- *One of Us is Lying* – Karen M. McManus (social stereotypes, deviance).

KS5 (years 12-13)

- *Chavs: The Demonization of the Working Class* – Owen Jones (class and inequality). [hestoncomm...hool.co.uk]
- *Gang Leader for a Day* – Sudhir Venkatesh (urban sociology, ethnography). [hestoncomm...hool.co.uk]
- *Natives: Race and Class in the Ruins of Empire* – Akala (race, identity, postcolonial Britain).

Websites

- Sociology Central – Articles and thought pieces beyond exam content. [sociology.org.uk]
- Bristol University Press – Social Issues – Insightful blogs on social change. [goodpods.com]
- Economic and Social Research Council – Latest research on society and culture.

Podcasts

- *Transforming Society* – Social justice and global challenges. [goodpods.com]
- *On Being* – Explores meaning, ethics, and social life in depth. [goodpods.com]
- *Social Science Bites* – Bite-sized interviews with sociologists