

# AQA GCSE Sociology

## Paper 1 – Families and Education



Spec Subsection & Topic	Detailed Career Pathway & Sociological Link	Further Info & Resources
<b>3.3.1</b> Functions of Families	<b>Family Support Worker:</b> You will assess family dynamics to ensure parents provide a "stable" environment for children. This applies <b>Murdock's</b> and <b>Parsons'</b> theories on primary socialisation in a practical, clinical setting.	<a href="#">Job Profile &amp; Tasks (NCS)</a>
<b>3.3.2</b> Family Forms	<b>Demographer / Census Officer:</b> You will track the rise of "symmetrical" families and lone-parent households. Your data helps the government decide where to build schools and hospitals based on changing family structures.	<a href="#">Data &amp; Trends (Prospects)</a>
<b>3.3.3</b> Conjugal Roles	<b>Equality &amp; Diversity Consultant:</b> You will advise companies on how to support "dual-burden" workers and close the gender pay gap, using research on domestic labour (like <b>Oakley</b> ) to create fairer work policies.	<a href="#">Inclusion Specialist (Prospects)</a>
<b>3.3.4</b> Relationships	<b>Family Law Mediator:</b> You will help families navigate the social and legal impacts of the <b>Divorce Reform Act</b> , working to ensure children's needs are met when the "nuclear" family unit breaks down.	<a href="#">Legal Mediation (NCS)</a>

<p><b>3.3.5</b> Criticisms (Dark Side)</p>	<p><b>Safeguarding Lead / Social Worker:</b> You will work on the frontline to protect individuals from the "dark side" of the family (domestic abuse), using sociological insights to spot hidden power imbalances in the home.</p>	<p><a href="#">Social Work Roles (NCS)</a></p>
<p><b>3.4.1</b> Functions of Education</p>	<p><b>School Admissions Officer:</b> You will manage the process of "social selection" and "role allocation" (<b>Davis &amp; Moore</b>), ensuring students are placed in environments that match their potential and the needs of society.</p>	<p><a href="#">Education Admin (Prospects)</a></p>
<p><b>3.4.2</b> Perspectives (Marxism)</p>	<p><b>Trade Union Representative:</b> You will fight for workers' rights in schools and colleges, challenging the "correspondence principle" to ensure education isn't just a "production line" for the capitalist workforce.</p>	<p><a href="#">Union Official (NCS)</a></p>
<p><b>3.4.3</b> Achievement (Class/Race)</p>	<p><b>Social Mobility Project Manager:</b> You will design interventions for students from "deprived" backgrounds, using data on cultural capital and material deprivation to bridge the achievement gap.</p>	<p><a href="#">Policy &amp; Outreach (Prospects)</a></p>
<p><b>3.4.4</b> Processes in Schools</p>	<p><b>Educational Psychologist:</b> You will study the "self-fulfilling prophecy" and how <b>labelling</b> impacts student behaviour, working with teachers to create positive subcultures and inclusive learning.</p>	<p><a href="#">Psychology Pathway (Prospects)</a></p>

## Paper 2 – Crime and Deviance and Social Stratification

Spec Subsection & Topic	Detailed Career Pathway & Sociological Link	Further Info & Resources
<p><b>3.5.1</b> Construction of Crime</p>	<p><b>Media Analyst / PR Specialist:</b> You will monitor how the media creates "moral panics" around certain social groups, managing the public image of organizations to prevent unfair labelling or "deviance amplification."</p>	<p><a href="#">Media &amp; Comms (Prospects)</a></p>
<p><b>3.5.2</b> Social Control</p>	<p><b>Police Officer:</b> You are the agent of <b>formal social control</b>. You will balance "keeping the peace" with upholding the law, ensuring that society remains stable and "consensus" is maintained.</p>	<p><a href="#">Join the Police (NCS)</a></p>
<p><b>3.5.3</b> Crime Data &amp; Stats</p>	<p><b>Criminal Intelligence Analyst:</b> You will look at <b>Official Statistics</b> and "Victim Surveys" to spot crime patterns. You use data to predict where crime will happen next and how to prevent it.</p>	<p><a href="#">Data Analyst (NCS)</a></p>
<p><b>3.5.4</b> Explanations of Crime</p>	<p><b>Probation Officer:</b> You will apply <b>Rehabilitation</b> theories to help offenders change. You'll look at why people commit crimes (e.g., "Strain Theory") and help them reintegrate into the "social structure."</p>	<p><a href="#">Probation Roles (Prospects)</a></p>
<p><b>3.5.5</b> Factors affecting Crime</p>	<p><b>Youth Justice Worker:</b> You will work with young people at risk of entering the "criminal subculture," focusing on the sociological factors like age, gender, and locality that lead to deviance.</p>	<p><a href="#">Youth Justice (NCS)</a></p>
<p><b>3.6.1</b> Perspectives on Strat</p>	<p><b>Political Policy Researcher:</b> You will analyze society through the lens of <b>Weber</b> or <b>Marx</b> to write laws. You might research how to reduce "class inequality" or how to tax wealth more fairly.</p>	<p><a href="#">Parliamentary Research (Prospects)</a></p>

<p><b>3.6.2</b> Forms of Stratification</p>	<p><b>HR Director:</b> You will manage "status" and "hierarchy" within a company. Your job is to ensure that promotion is based on <b>meritocracy</b> and that nobody faces a "glass ceiling" based on their background.</p>	<p><a href="#">Human Resources (Prospects)</a></p>
<p><b>3.6.3</b> Social Mobility</p>	<p><b>University Access Officer:</b> You will work to increase the number of students from working-class backgrounds in top universities, focusing on "inter-generational mobility."</p>	<p><a href="#">Outreach Officer (Prospects)</a></p>
<p><b>3.6.4</b> Poverty</p>	<p><b>Housing &amp; Welfare Rights Officer:</b> You will help those in "absolute" and "relative" poverty find safe housing and access benefits, working to break the "cycle of deprivation" in the UK.</p>	<p><a href="#">Housing Officer (NCS)</a></p>
<p><b>3.6.5</b> Power &amp; Authority</p>	<p><b>Journalist / Local Councillor:</b> You will hold "power" to account. Whether through reporting or local law-making, you investigate how <b>authority</b> is used and represent the voices of the "powerless."</p>	<p><a href="#">Journalism Roles (NCS)</a></p>