## Sociology Transition Work

## Design your Ideal Education System Task

Date to be handed in: September.

## TASK:

Many sociologists are interested in the role that education plays in people's lives. It is compulsory for ALL individuals aged between 5 and 16 to engage in some form of education. They have absolutely no choice in the matter! Those who fail to attend the Education System are breaking the law; this is illegal.

Therefore, the education system needs to get it right! But is it? Sociologists have already discovered the education system may not be providing the best education possible. What do you think?

It seems that, generally speaking, working-class children end up in working-class jobs whilst middle-class children end up in middle-class 'Elite Jobs'. Why? It seems that girls tend to excel in the education system compared to boys. Boys seem to have more behavioural problems than girls. Why? It seems that students from ethnic minority backgrounds seem to face extra barriers that have a negative impact on their educational success. Why?

You now have the opportunity to design a better education system. You can create your own school.

## 1. Design of your school:

(Think about layout, appearance of your school, classroom size, extent ofsports/music/science facilities etc, modern, a set uniform, timings of school day, which days school would run on (Monday to Friday? Saturday?) Would you use a grading system?

(Think about lessons you would offer, would you stick with traditional subjects of what extra-curricular activities you would offer, would you offer a counselling se space', or a cinema projector for educational films. Be open minded, think about might benefit from)	ervice, a 'quiet
3. If your school received limited funding for only a restricted number of stude sixth form, how would you decide who would be accepted into the sixth form turned away? Would you set specific entry requirements? Would you make the entrance test? Explain your responses.	and who would be
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4. The following image is a print screen of a league table from the Department for Education website. It has a list of the top Academies from around Stoke on Trent for 2019.

School name *	Type of school	Number * of pupils at end of key stage 4	Progress 8 🕜		Entering * EBacc	education or	Grade • 5 or	Attainment * 8 score	EBacc •
			Number * of pupils included in this measure	Score & ** description	0	entering employment (2017 leavers)	above in English & maths GCSEs	8	point score
St Joseph's College	Academy	149	137	Above average 0.45	54%	98% (120 of 122 pupils)	79%	60.7	5.36
The Excel Academy	Academy	161	151	Average 0.09	31%	93% (136 of 146 pupils)	49%	48	3.9
St John Fisher Catholic College	Academy	164	160	Average -0.06	26%	98% (160 of 163 pupils)	30%	44	3.72
Co-op Academy Stoke-On-Trent	Academy	158	135	Average -0.16	18%	95% (130 of 137 pupils)	33%	41.6	3.27
Discovery Academy	Academy	206	201	Below average -0.3	39%	93% (148 of 159 pupils)	28%	41.5	3.34

a)	Identify the top 2 schools that have the highest number of students staying in education or entering employment.
b)	Identify which school had the highest intake of students at the end of key stage 4 (sitting Year 11 exams).
c)	Identify which school had the lowest number of students entering the EBacc.
d)	What is the English Baccalaureate?
d) 	Each of the schools listed above are Academies. What is an Academy?