

The purpose of our Psychology curriculum is to secure strong academic outcomes. We are committed to ensuring all pupils have high aspirations while providing support and provision to ensure all can succeed. We want students to develop a real passion for learning about human thought and behaviour through the variety of diverse and thought-provoking topics we study. Students will learn about how psychology is used in society and the wider applications and implications of the subject. Students will learn to describe and assess existing theories and research. They will also develop practical research skills to enable them to plan, conduct and collect data. Students will develop mathematical skills to allow them to analyse data and reach conclusions. The curriculum aims for students to be confident in expressing psychological ideas verbally and in academic writing and be prepared to take risks with their learning. To be learners who persevere and are committed to their success in this subject and developing a lifelong interest in psychology, enabling students to pursue the subject at degree level and beyond.

At Key Stage 4 Pupils follow the AQA GCSE Psychology specification. Students study eight topic areas, including Research Methods, Memory, Perception, Development, Social Influence, Language, Thought and Communication, The Brain and Neuropsychology and Psychological Problems. Each topic involves study of key concepts, theories and studies which pupils must be able to describe, apply and evaluate. Students learn about the BPS guidelines for psychological research which has links to the whole-school work as a UNICEF Rights Respecting Gold School. At the end of KS4 students sit two written exam papers of equal weighting.

At Key Stage 5 Pupils follow the AQA A level Psychology specification. Students study twelve topic areas across two years. In the first year of A level they learn about Research Methods, Memory, Social Influence, Attachment, Psychopathology, Biopsychology and Psychological Approaches. In the second-year students' study in depth Schizophrenia, Forensic Psychology, Psychological Issues and Debates. Students will learn the skills to describe and evaluate theories and research within each topic. They will also be able to apply their knowledge and understanding to different contexts. They will be able to interpret data to reach conclusions and plan their own research. At the end of the course students will sit three written exam papers, Paper 1 Introductory topics in Psychology, Paper 2 Psychology in Context and Paper 3 Issues and Options in Psychology, each paper is two hours long and worth 96 marks.

Year	Knowledge (Topics / contexts) What pupils will 'know'.	Skills acquired What pupils will be able to 'do'.	Concepts developed What pupils will 'understand'.	Assessment
Year 10	<p>Pupils will cover topics including memory, perception, development and research methods.</p> <p>Pupils will learn a range of key terms for each topic. Within each topic pupils will learn about a variety of theories and studies and consider how these fit together by focusing on issues or debates within psychology.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decode and answer short answer exam questions involving knowledge, application and evaluation. Write longer answer essay style questions involving synthesis of a range of assessment objectives, including describe, evaluate and apply. Independently plan and carry out research into different areas of psychology. Discuss psychological concept, theories and research using key terminology with confidence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How psychology as a subject has many varied areas of study. How these can relate to future careers. How psychologists carry out research and report their findings. How the different research methods used and how their findings can be applied in the real world. How different areas of psychology are interlinked through methods used or concepts to explain different areas 	<p>Short exam style questions used throughout lessons.</p> <p>Topic checklists for pupils to keep track of what has been covered in class and what they have revised.</p> <p>Verbal questioning throughout lessons.</p> <p>Peer and self-assessment in lesson.</p> <p>Detailed Feedback</p> <p>End of topic assessments to be completed at the end of every topic.</p>

				<p>Essay Questions</p> <p>A mock examination towards the end of the year, covering the range of skills and topics taught so far throughout the year.</p>
Year 11	<p>Pupils will revisit learning from year 10. They will also study new topics including social influence, language, thought and communication, the brain and neuropsychology and psychological problems.</p> <p>Pupils will learn a range of key terms for each topic. Within each topic pupils will learn about a variety of theories and studies and consider how these fit together by focusing on issues or debates within psychology.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decode and answer short answer exam questions involving knowledge, application and evaluation. • Write longer answer essay style questions involving synthesis of a range of assessment objectives, including describe, evaluate and apply. Independently plan and carry out research into different areas of psychology. • Discuss psychological concept, theories and research using key terminology with confidence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build on understanding from year 10 to make links to new topic areas. • Apply previous knowledge of methods to new material. 	<p>Short exam style questions used throughout lessons.</p> <p>Topic checklists for pupils to keep track of what has been covered in class and what they have revised.</p> <p>Verbal questioning throughout lessons.</p> <p>Peer and self-assessment in lessons.</p> <p>Detailed feedback.</p> <p>End of topic assessments to be</p>

				<p>completed at the end of every topic.</p> <p>Essay Questions</p> <p>A mock examination covering the range of skills and topics taught so far throughout the year.</p> <p>Compiled of past exam questions to give pupils the opportunity to see how the real examinations will be.</p>
Year 12	<p>Student will cover topics of study including memory, social influence, attachment, research methods, psychopathology, approaches and biopsychology in psychology. Students will learn a wide range of key terms for each topic, variety of theories and studies and apply these</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decode and answer short answer questions involving knowledge, application and evaluation. • Analyse data and reach conclusions. • Write longer answer essay style questions involving synthesis of a range 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How psychology as a subject has many varied areas of study. How these can relate to future careers. • How psychologists carry out research in these areas and report the findings. • The different research methods used and how their findings can be applied in the real world. 	<p>Short exam style questions used throughout lessons (peer and self-marked).</p> <p>Topic checklists for pupils to keep track of what has been covered in class and what they have revised.</p>

		<p>of assessment objectives, including describe, evaluate and apply.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use their knowledge in novel questions, applying content to new scenarios. • Discuss psychological concept, theories and research using key terminology with confidence 		<p>Verbal questioning throughout lessons.</p> <p>Peer and self-assessment in lessons.</p> <p>Detailed Feedback</p> <p>Half term assessments.</p> <p>Mock examinations covering the range of skills and topics taught.</p> <p>Essay Questions</p>
Year 13	<p>Students will consolidate their year 12 content and continue to build on research methods.</p> <p>They will cover relationships, schizophrenia, forensic psychology and issues and debates. Within each topic pupils will learn about a variety of</p>	<p>Decode and answer a range of questions on the topic areas including to answer short answer questions involving knowledge, application, and evaluation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyse data and reach conclusions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make links to year 1 material in of issues and debates. • Understand how psychology is changing as a discipline. • Deeper understanding of how research methods are used and how concepts and approaches can 	<p>Short exam style questions used throughout lessons (peer and self-marked).</p> <p>Topic checklists for pupils to keep track of what has</p>

	<p>theories and studies and use these to explain real life applications.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write longer answer essay style questions involving synthesis of a range of assessment objectives, including describe, evaluate and apply. • Discuss psychological concept, theories and research using key terminology with confidence 	<p>be applied to the different areas which psychologists' study.</p>	<p>been covered in class and what they have revised.</p> <p>Verbal questioning throughout lessons.</p> <p>Peer and self-assessment in lessons.</p> <p>Detailed Feedback Half term assessments</p> <p>A mock examination covering the range of skills and topics taught so far throughout the year</p> <p>Essay Questions</p>
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