



Year 12 Psychology

The curriculum has been planned in line with the AQA AS/A level Psychology specification. In Year 12 students are taught 2 lessons a week on the approaches in psychology and 2 lessons a week on research methods to begin with from the AS specification (paper 2). These topics have been chosen as they are the foundations of psychology upon which theories of human behaviour and psychology research are built. By covering these topics first it equips students with the psychology research skills and knowledge needed to cover the contextualised topics: psychopathology, attachment, memory and social influence. Covering paper 2 and then paper 1 also allows for opportunities to further deepen and secure student's knowledge of the subject throughout both years of the course. E.g. Approaches are covered in the first term and then revisited at several points throughout the year when looking at psychopathology and attachment. Research methods is covered in the first term and then revisited in memory and social influence. These skills are then deepened in the summer term when covering the A level specification content.

Methods of deepening and securing knowledge:	
Spaced practice	Research methods and approaches are reviewed throughout the year when using in the context of actual psychological research and theories.
Retrieval practice	Starters at the beginning of lessons, knowledge checks and end of topic assessments.
Elaboration	Class discussion, verbal analysis and reflection on assessments.
Interleaving	Opportunities are given consistently throughout the year.
Concrete examples	E.g. Approaches covered in the autumn term and revisited in the spring term. Research methods covered in the autumn term and revisited in the spring and summer term.

	Autumn term 1	Autumn term 2	Spring term 1	Spring term 2	Summer term 1	Summer term 2
Topic(s)	Origins of psychology - Wundt & introspection - Emergence of psychology as a Science Research Methods	Biopsychology Research Methods - Sensory, relay & motor neurons. The process of synaptic transmission - The function of the endocrine system - Glands & hormones	Attachment - Caregiver-infant interactions in humans - Stages of attachment - Multiple attachments & the role of the father - Animal studies of attachment	Memory - The multi-store model of memory - The working memory model: - Knowledge check - Types of long-term memory - Explanations for forgetting:	Social Influence - Explanations for obedience: - Situational variables affecting obedience - Paper 1 & Paper 2 review week PPE WEEK Social influence	Research methods - Practical project - Content analysis - Thematic analysis - Case studies - Reliability across all methods of investigation

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Difference between aim & hypothesis - Sampling: the difference between population & sample random; implications of sampling techniques, including bias & generalisation - Exam technique/recap - Assessment <p>Learning Approaches</p> <p>Research methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The behaviourist approach - Strengths & weaknesses of behaviourist approach - Types of experiments - Experimental design - SLT (A01) - SLT (A02/A03) - Demand characteristics & investigator effects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The role of the British Psychological Society's code of ethics - Pilot studies and the aims of piloting - The implications of psychological research for the economy <p>Research Method</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment - The role of peer review in the scientific process - The distinction between qualitative & quantitative data collection techniques - Presentation & display of quantitative data - Measures of central tendency - Normal & skewed distributions - The sign test - When to use the sign test; - Calculation of the sign test - Mathematical skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Explanations of attachment: learning theory & Bowlby's monotropic theory - Bowlby's monotropic theory - Knowledge check - Ainsworth's 'Strange Situation' - Types of attachment - Cultural variations in attachment - Knowledge check - Bowlby's theory of maternal deprivation - The influence of early attachment on childhood & adult relationships - Romanian orphan studies - Effects of institutionalisation <p>Attachment Memory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attachment review - Assessment - Features of memory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Factors affecting the accuracy of eyewitness testimony - Improving the accuracy of eyewitness testimony - Knowledge check - Memory review & assessment <p>Social influence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Types of conformity - Explanations for conformity - Variables affecting conformity - Conformity to social roles - Knowledge check - Milgram 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dispositional explanation for obedience: - Explanations of resistance to social influence - Knowledge check - Minority influence - The role of social influence processes in social change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Types of validity across all methods of investigation - Features of science - Reporting psychological investigations - Levels of measurement - Probability & significance: - Factors affecting the choice of statistical test - When to use statistical tests
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Variables: manipulation & control of variables 4.Control <p>Cognitive approach</p> <p>Research methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment - The cognitive approach - Self-report techniques & construction <p>Biological approach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment - The influence of genes, biological structures & neurochemistry on behaviour - Genotype & phenotype, genetic basis of behaviour, evolution & behaviour - Correlations Analysis of the relationship between co-variables <p>Biopsychology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The divisions of the nervous system 	<p>Psychopathology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deviation of abnormality - OCD & genetic & neural explanations - Drug therapy - Review - Assessment - Characteristics of depression - Beck's negative triad & Ellis's ABC model - Cognitive behaviour therapy (CBT) - Review - The two-process model of phobias Systematic desensitisation, flooding - Paper 2 review 				
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The fight or flight response including the role of adrenaline - Observational techniques - Observational design 					
Assessment	Approaches and research methods end of topic assessment	Assessment Biopsychology Assessment research methods	Assessment on attachment	Assessment memory	Assessment Paper 1 and Paper 2	Assessment Social influence Assessment A level RM

Homework:
 E.g. (please delete and replace) Homework is a core part of learning and serves to support the learning in class, enrich the student experience and develop knowledge and skills. There are ? types of homework set in ? e.g. revision. Preparing for assessment is an essential part of each topic as each assessment allows teachers and students to see their progress. It is crucial that revision is completed so students can show off what they know.