

Overview:

A linear qualification following the AQA specification. Students will be provided with an engaging introduction to Psychology gaining an understanding of the way people think and why they behave in certain ways. Students will be challenged to think differently developing analytical thinking, problem solving, improved communication, independent thinking and research skills. In the autumn term students will be introduced to the foundations of Psychology (Paper 2) building student knowledge and confidence in approaches and research methods and utilising skills learnt from GCSE Biology and Maths. Paper 1 content is covered in the Spring and Summer term allowing opportunities for students to secure and deepen their knowledge and skills in the subject in a contextualised way. Topics covered include: Memory, Attachment and Social Influence.

Careers in the Curriculum:

The topics covered will highlight links to careers in Research, Data analyst, Primary school teacher, Child psychologist, Social worker, Police officer and various Government roles (e.g. Policy maker).

Term	Topic	Assessment
Aut1	<p>Approaches in psychology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Origins of psychology (Wundt and introspection) • Behaviourist, SLT, biological and cognitive approaches <p>Research Methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various research methods • The scientific process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseline assessment Basic assumptions of the approaches and research methods) • Summative assessment Psychological Approaches (24 marks)
Aut2	<p>Research Methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data handling and analysis • Inferential testing (The sign test) <p>Biopsychology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nervous system, structure and function of neurons • Fight or flight response • Endocrine System <p>Psychopathology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definitions of abnormality • Characteristics, explanation and treatment for phobias,OCD and depression 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summative assessment: Research Methods (24 marks) • Summative assessment: Psychopathology (24 marks)
Spr1	<p>Social influence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types and explanations for conformity • Situational and dispositional explanations for obedience • Resisting social influence and explanations for social change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summative assessment: Social Influence (24 marks)
Spr2	<p>Memory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Models of memory • Explanations for forgetting • Factors affecting the accuracy of EWT <p>Attachment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attachment development, types of attachment and explanations for attachment • Maternal deprivation, romanian orphan studies and the effects of institutionalisation • Influence of early attachment on later development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summative assessment: Memory (24 marks) • Summative assessment: Attachment (24 marks)
Sum1	<p>Research Methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case studies, content analysis and thematic analysis • Types of reliability, assessing and improving reliability • Types of validity, assessing and improving validity • The scientific method • Psychological research report writing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formative assessment: Research methods
Sum2	<p>Research Methods continued</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data analysis and handling • Levels of measurement <p>Inferential Testing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Type 1 and Type 11 errors • Factors affecting the choice of statistical tests and when to use statistical tests 	<p>AH3 Summative assessment: Paper 1 (72 marks) Paper 2 (72 marks)</p>



Overview:

The curriculum has been designed to follow on from the skills and knowledge developed in year 1 of the course in order to allow students to deepen and expand their psychological knowledge introducing students to a wider range of contemporary implications and applications of psychological theory and research. Issues and debates (paper 3) are covered in the autumn term as this helps develop students' critical analysis skills and meet the demands of the greater emphasis on evaluative skills in year 2. This also provides the opportunity to revisit topics covered in year 1 deepening and securing knowledge. The autumn and spring terms focus on paper 3 topics which cover key areas of human behaviour in more depth (clinical, forensic and social psychology).

Careers in the Curriculum:

The topics covered will highlight links to careers in the Probation service, Mental health nurse, Counsellor, Forensic psychologist and Clinical psychologist.

Term	Topic	Assessment
Aut1	<p>Issues and Debates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender and culture in psychology • Free will/determinism, nature/nurture and holism/reductionism • -Idiographic and nomothetic approaches and ethical implications <p>Approaches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Humanistic approach • Psychodynamic approach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summative assessment: Research Methods (48 marks)
Aut2	<p>Biopsychology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ways of measuring the brain • Biological rhythms (circadian, infradian and ultradian) • Localisation and lateralisation of the brain • Plasticity and functional recovery of the brain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summative assessment: • Issues and Debates (24 marks) • Summative assessment: Biopsychology (24 marks)
Spr1	<p>Schizophrenia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classification and diagnosis of schizophrenia • Biological and psychological explanations • Biological and psychological treatments <p>Forensic Psychology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offender profiling • Biological and psychological explanations for offending behaviour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summative assessment: • Schizophrenia (24 marks) • Paper 2 PPE (96 marks)
Spr2	<p>Forensic Psychology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dealing with offender behaviour <p>Relationships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evolutionary explanations for partner preference • Factors affecting attraction in romantic relationships • Theories of romantic relationships • Virtual relationships in social media and parasocial relationships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summative assessment: • Forensic Psychology (24 marks) • Summative assessment: Relationships (24 marks) • Paper 1 PPE (96 marks)
Sum1	<p>Revision for A level exams Review of content covered in year 1 and year 2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper 1, Paper 2 external examinations • Paper 3 external examination.
Sum2	<p>Revision for A level exams Review of content covered in year 1 and year 2</p>	