



KS5 Curriculum: Psychology

Curriculum Vision

AQA A Level Psychology

The A level Psychology curriculum will give students a strong foundation of transferrable skills to aid their future educational aspirations plus the option to pursue a career in the field. By the end of the course students will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of psychological concepts, theories, research studies, research methods and ethical issues within Psychology. They will be able apply psychological knowledge and understanding in a range of contexts and be able to analyse, interpret and evaluate psychological concepts, theories, research studies and research methods. Knowledge and understanding of research methods, practical research skills and mathematical skills is a vital part of the Psychology curriculum and students will be given opportunity to design and carry out their own research as well as practice analysis and interpreting data.

The course will build upon the scientific and mathematical concepts the students have studied at GCSE. These will be combined with analytical skills, developing an understanding of studying human behaviour. By the end of the course, students will have an broad overview of a variety of psychological concepts and the skills to review research with a critical eye.

Curriculum Profile

Year 12

Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
Research methods, including maths skills (All papers) Memory topic (Paper 1)	Research methods (All papers) Social influence (Paper 1)

Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2
Approaches (Paper 2) Attachment (Paper 1)	Approaches (Paper 2) Psychopathology (Paper 1)

Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
Issues and debates (Paper 3) Revision for Year 12 Mock exams	Research methods (All papers) Research projects (Paper 2)

Year 13

Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
Gender (Paper 3) Schizophrenia (Paper 3)	Forensics (Paper 3) Revision for Year 13 Mock exams

Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2
Biopsychology (Paper 2)	Research methods (All papers)

Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
Revision and Examination technique	Public Examinations

Please note that this timeline may be subject to change.

Assessment and Feedback

All students will:

- have at least one piece of assessed work reviewed by their teacher per half-term (this increases to two pieces of assessed work if students receive five or more taught hours per fortnight).
- receive feedback which outlines how they should develop their learning. This feedback should be summative, highlighting both key strengths and key areas for development in students' work.
- be given the opportunity to act upon their feedback in a structured task. This task should then be reviewed again by the subject teacher. A review of this task can act as the second assessed task.

Written assessments will be completed after every topic. These will include a mix of exam questions; short answer, longer answer and essay style. Research methods content can appear in any of these assessments as it underpins all of Psychology.

Essays will be assessed, minimum of one per topic. Set as either home learning assignments or completed in timed conditions during lessons.

Short answer exam questions will be completed regularly throughout topics.

There will be clarity for students at the time as to whether these pieces of work will be self-assessed, peer-assessed or teacher assessed.

Resources to support learning beyond the classroom

AQA examination board website:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/psychology/as-and-a-level/psychology-7181-7182/subject-content-a-level>

Relevant websites:

<https://www.bps.org.uk/>

<https://www.tutor2u.net/psychology>

<https://www.simplypsychology.org/>