

Psychology

Brief overview and aims of teaching Psychology

Psychology is a subject which enables students to develop a deeper understanding of their own and others' behaviour. Students also develop an understanding for other cultures as they reflect on differences and the reasons why our behaviour may be different to others. Additionally, treading throughout each topic, there are a number of opportunities to develop research skills, particularly focusing on the in-depth knowledge and analysis of the key research studies for each topic. These skills will not only be applied to the GCSE examination but will also prepare students for study of psychology at A-Level and beyond.

KS3: N/A

KS4

Exam board and specification: AQA GCSE Psychology

The AQA GCSE Psychology course has a 100% exam focus. There are no opportunities for coursework or controlled assessment.

Paper 1 focuses on cognition and behaviour and is worth 50% of the overall GCSE grade. The exam is 1hr 45 minutes, and consists of four topics: Memory, Perception, Development, and Research Methods. Each topic is allocated a total of 25 marks.

Paper 2 focuses on social context and behaviour and is worth 50% of the overall GCSE grade. The exam is 1hr 45 minutes, and consists of four topics: Social influence, Language, thought and communication, Brain and neuropsychology, and Psychological problems. Each topic is allocated a total of 25 marks.

Topics taught

	Y9	Y10	Y11
Autumn ½ term 1	Research Methods	Perception	Brain & neuropsychology
Autumn ½ term 2	Research Methods	Perception	Brain & Neuropsychology
Spring ½ term 1	Memory	Social Influence	Psychological problems
Spring ½ term 2	Memory	Social Influence	Psychological problems
Summer ½ term 1	Development	Language, thought and communication	
Summer ½ term 2	Development	Language, thought and communication	

How will students' progress be assessed throughout the course?

For each modules students will sit a mini-assessment (worth 20 marks) and an end of module assessment (worth 40 marks). In addition to this, students will have a revision/homework booklet, which will be monitored to ensure that they are making adequate progress.

What homework will students expect?

Students will be set homework each fortnight in accordance with school policy. Homework will generally consist of completing activities in their booklets for each module, or on occasion completing an exam-style question to ensure key knowledge and understanding has been embedded.

Any useful websites or information that students can use to support their learning?

Students will be given access to the textbook online when they begin the course. This is a vital and useful tool as it means that they will have access to all of the information that they require for the course. In addition, this access has links to a multitude of websites and videos that will enhance student learning.