



The Humanities, MFL and Social Sciences Faculty

Health and Social Care



Subject Intent:

In GCSE Psychology we intend to introduce the fundamental concepts of the subject, developing critical analysis, independent thinking and research skills. Students will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of psychological ideas, processes, procedures and theories and develop their skills of applying their psychological knowledge and understanding in a range of context. Students will develop their skills of analysis and evaluation in relation to psychological ideas, information, processes and procedures allowing them to make judgements, draw conclusions and produce developments or refinements of psychological procedures based on their reasoning and synthesis of skills.

Studying GCSE psychology is an excellent way to obtain a foundational knowledge of how the human mind works, understand social behaviour and human development. Psychology is one of the most interesting and dynamic fields in the world currently, in part due to the growing awareness of mental health issues.

Course Overview:

Memory - This includes the process, structure and process of memory. The exploration of the different kinds of memory – such as episodic, semantic and procedural and how they are formed.

Perception - Perception refers to the way we organise and interpret sensory information.

Development - Developmental psychology examines how and why human beings change over the course of their life.

Research Methods - This module teaches students how to carry out scientific research including how to form a testable hypothesis, the types of variables and sampling methods. They will also understand planning research, ethical considerations and the importance of data.

Social Influence - Social influence explores the effect of conformity and major influence on an individual depending on a variety of factors. Including anonymity, peer group, personality and others. Students will also study the concepts of obedience and prosocial behaviour that influences the individual in order to alter behaviour.

Language, Thought and Communication - This module examines the relationship between language and thought and how this can alter an individual's view on the world. Students will study the differences between human and animal communication as well as the significance of non-verbal communication in human interactions.

Brain and Neuropsychology - students will study the structure and function of the nervous system. You will also study the structure of neurons and the brain itself and their respective roles to play in our conscious and unconscious lives.

Psychological Problems - Psychological problems is an introduction to mental health issues, the significance of these challenges and the impact they can have on society. Students will also look at clinical depression, therapies, the characteristics of addiction and theories underpinning that.

Course Detail:

A list the key content students will cover, broken down into these headings

100% Externally Assessed

Paper 1: Cognition and behaviour: • Memory • Perception • Development • Research methods

Students will be expected to draw on knowledge and understanding of the entire course of study to show a deeper understanding of these topics.

Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes

100 marks. 50% of GCSE Questions

Sections A-D: Each containing multiple choice questions, short answer and extended writing (25 marks per section)

Paper 2: Social context and behavior: • Social influence • Language, thought and communication • Brain and neuropsychology • Psychological problems

Students will be expected to draw on knowledge and understanding of the entire course of study to show a deeper understanding of these topics.

Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes

100 marks. 50% of GCSE Questions

Sections A-D: Each containing multiple choice questions, short answer and extended writing (25 marks per section)

Enrichment Opportunities

Debate Club
Research Club

Useful links

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/psychology/gcse/psychology-8182>

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

<https://learndojo.org/gcse/aqa-psychology/>