



The curriculum for this stage of students' education has been designed to support Psychology student's discovery of a new and exciting subject option. The topic of Approaches will allow students to engage with a broad overview of the discipline before they are exposed to the complexity of the subject, through the introduction of research methods. Prior knowledge of maths and science will be assessed at his stage and built upon further. Students will then embark on learning each Paper 1 topic, before ending the Summer term with the challenge of engaging with Paper 3 topic Schizophrenia, which includes advanced content of biological explanations of mental illness. Students will be formally assessed with two periods of mock examinations, a one-hour paper in November to assess initial knowledge obtained and a further three papers in June to assess knowledge retention over time and exam technique.

<p>HALF TERM 1: PAPER 2 APPROACHES AND RESEARCH METHODS</p> <p>STUDENTS MUST KNOW:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Origins of Psychology followed by five descriptions, evaluations and comparisons of five approaches: Behaviourist, Cognitive, Biological, Psychodynamic and Humanistic. • Types of experiment, hypothesis formation, observations, self-report data, correlations, qualitative analysis, case studies, sampling and ethical guidelines, reliability and validity. Mathematical analysis. <p>HOW THIS WILL BE ASSESSED: Maths and Science baseline assessment Weekly tests Fortnightly exam questions Ability to outline theories</p>	<p>HALF TERM 2: PAPER 1 MEMORY</p> <p>STUDENTS MUST KNOW:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Models of memory: Multi-Store, Long Term, Working Memory Model. • Models of forgetting: Interference, Retrieval Failure. • Eyewitness Testimony and the Cognitive Interview. <p>HOW THIS WILL BE ASSESSED: Mock exam Weekly tests Fortnightly exam questions Ability to describe and evaluate theories</p>	<p>HALF TERM 3: PAPER 1 ATTACHMENT</p> <p>STUDENTS MUST KNOW:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theoretical explanations of attachment, the role of the father, animal studies, Ainsworth's Strange Situation, cultural variations and Maternal Deprivation Hypothesis • The effects of institutionalisation and the influence of early attachment and later relationships. <p>HOW THIS WILL BE ASSESSED: Weekly tests Fortnightly exam questions Reading week project Ability to apply theories to scenarios</p>
<p>HALF TERM 4: PAPER 1 SOCIAL INFLUENCE</p> <p>STUDENTS MUST KNOW:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conformity and obedience research: Asch, Zimbardo and Milgram. • Situational variables, socio-psychological factors, dispositional explanations, resistance to social influence, minority influence and social change. <p>HOW THIS WILL BE ASSESSED: Weekly tests Fortnightly exam questions Ability to discuss and compare theories</p>	<p>HALF TERM 5: PAPER 1 PSYCHOPATHOLOGY AND PAPER 2 RESEARCH METHODS</p> <p>STUDENTS MUST KNOW:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definitions, explaining and treating phobias, explaining and treating depression, explaining and treating OCD. • Beyond A-Levels, report writing, Psychology as a Science, primary and secondary data, quantitative analysis, descriptive statistics, the sign test and choosing a statistical test. <p>HOW THIS WILL BE ASSESSED: Weekly tests Fortnightly exam questions Ability to design and conduct research</p>	<p>HALF TERM 6: PAPER 3 SCHIZOPHRENIA</p> <p>STUDENTS MUST KNOW:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schizophrenia: biological explanations and drug therapy psychological explanations. • Therapies and the interactionist approach. <p>HOW THIS WILL BE ASSESSED: Mock exams Weekly tests Fortnightly exam questions</p>

Embedding this knowledge can be supported at home by the constant review of lesson content through a range of revision methods, including the completion of past exam papers and analysis of mark schemes. The required commitment to A-Level Psychology is a minimum of 4 hours independent study each week to consolidate and extend knowledge. Students can further develop their understanding of Psychology through taking advantage of securing a year 12 work experience in a care setting, for example in an elderly care home or nursery. This will allow them to apply theory to real life settings, making them aware of the rewards and challenges involved in working in this sector.