

Curriculum Planning

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Year 12	<p>Research Methods is a critical component of the course, worth 25% of the overall exam. Questions on Research Methods are integrated throughout the papers, covering all topics. It is essential that students develop the necessary knowledge, skills, and understanding of Research Methods from the very beginning, as this foundational knowledge will be applied across the entire course. Enabling students to comprehend and engage with the material.</p>	<p>AS Biopsychology Students understand the biological basis of human behaviour.</p> <p>Approaches Building on biopsychology students develop understanding of human development from various perspectives.</p>	<p>Abnormality Students build on their understanding of approaches and apply knowledge to mental health disorders, including phobias, OCD and depression. Students will develop understanding, explanations and treatments.</p>	<p>Memory Conceptual and abstract thinking. Building on cognitive approach. Understanding of how memory works through 2 different models. Focus on forgetting and issues with EWT.</p> <p>Social Influence An understanding of conformity, obedience and how this impacts society. Examines key examples throughout history (apartheid, The Suffragettes, MLK etc.).</p>	<p>Attachment Understanding of why humans need attachments and the evolutionary benefits of them. Reflecting upon own attachments. Understanding future impacts of earlier attachments. Analysing impacts of disruption in early attachments.</p>	<p>A2 Biopsychology Built on from Biological approach and AS Biopsychology content; getting students to understand the biological basis of human behaviour and furthering this to understand functions of the brain.</p>
Links: SMSC/PD/Careers/visits	<p>Students should demonstrate knowledge and understanding of: experimental methods; observations; self-report techniques and correlations. Students need to know the scientific processes and techniques of data handling and analysis, be familiar with their use and be aware of their strengths and limitations.</p>	<p>Students will start to understand some of their own behaviour and relate to everyday situations (e.g. Fight or flight response)</p> <p>Getting students to understanding a basic viewpoint of why people behave in certain ways and how we learn. Forms the foundations of many explanations across the rest of the topics.</p>	<p>Students will become aware of very common mental health illnesses, which are on the rise in today's society, especially in their age group. Students will (hopefully), from understanding, develop compassion and patience for individuals with those illnesses.</p>	<p>An understanding of how our memory works will give an opportunity for students to reflect upon their own memory patterns and enable them to apply this to revision techniques.</p> <p>Students will understand conformity and why people conform or obey. They will be able to apply this to making sense of history and other social issues.</p>	<p>This should help students understand the importance of maintaining key relationships, particularly at such significant stages of their lives. Studying this will benefit HSC.</p>	<p>Students will begin to understand more complex and severe mental illnesses. Again, this will give students the opportunity to appreciate how common this is and be more sensitive to the issue. Education here should also help reduce the stigma surrounding ill mental health.</p>

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<p>Year 13</p>	<p>Issues and Debates To understand significant issues & debates that are consistent across all areas of psychology. This will bring together AO3 elements from all topics</p>	<p>A2 Research Methods Building on from the foundational knowledge of AS level research methods and extended to include writing reports and carrying out inferential statistics.</p>	<p>Aggression Students will study various explanations for human aggression: biological; evolutionary; social and the effects of the media. This topic has been chosen as it builds on students' knowledge of the different approaches (biological, social learning) in explaining aggression.</p>	<p>Relationships Students will look at theories of romantic relationships, including attraction and the breaking down of relationships. This topic also covers virtual and para-social relationships and the drawbacks to disclosing information online. This topic will build on the learnings from the biological approach.</p>	<p>Schizophrenia Students will learn to understand schizophrenia the co-morbidity rates with other common mental illnesses. This includes symptoms, classifications, explanations, and treatments. Will build on knowledge from the cognitive, behavioural & biological approaches.</p>	<p>A-Level Exams</p>
<p>Links: SMSC/PD/careers/visits</p>	<p>Will build on their critical thinking skills and greater understanding of the issues still faced in today's society The topic allows students to discuss how psychology could be gender and culturally biased and give students appreciation of other cultures and learn to accept behaviour that differs from our own.</p>	<p>To help students progress to study psychology or related disciplines at universities, gaining confidence in their ability to contribute to academic research and practice in the field.</p>	<p>The role of social interactions in explaining behaviour – for example media influences on aggression, the effect of TV and video games etc. discuss the importance of cultural influences on behaviour, and whether other factors are more important in determining behaviour – for example the role of genetics and hormones.</p>	<p>During relationships, factors influencing attraction are studied and how social factors (self-disclosure, filter theory etc.) are studied.</p>	<p>To help increase in empathy and a commitment to reducing stigma surrounding mental health. Gain insights into the biopsychosocial model of schizophrenia, encompassing biological, psychological, and social perspectives, allowing students to appreciate the multifaceted nature of the disorder.</p>	