

Psychology @ WBS Year 12 Roadmap

Subject Aim: The focus in year 12 is to study the main approaches within Psychology and use these to explain a range of behaviours. You will develop a detailed understanding of a range of behaviours and psychological research, including conducting your own research.

Social Psychology

How behaviour is shaped by our culture, society, situation and interactions with others; with a focus on explaining obedient and prejudice behaviour. Ethical guidelines for research will be studied and self-report research methods with you conducting your own questionnaire to investigate prejudice attitudes.

Cognitive Psychology

How behaviour is shaped by cognition: the way we process information around us. A focus on explaining memory, memory differences, memory deficits and how this develops as the brain ages. The experimental method and case study research methods will be studied with you conducting your own experiment to investigate memory.

Biological Psychology

How behaviour is shaped by our biology: genes, nervous system, hormones and the brain with a focus on aggressive behaviour. Scientific methods, family studies and brain scanning techniques will be studied with you conducting own correlational piece of research on aggressive behaviour.

Learning Psychology

How behaviour is shaped by learning from our environment, particularly through observation and imitation, conditioning, stimulus response and reward and punishment. The observational research method will be studied, as well as animal research with you conducting your own observation on gender differences in behaviour.

Assessment

You will sit 4 key assessments throughout the year, a mock and some smaller assessments within lessons. Each assessment will cover content covered throughout the approach, including stimulus and data response, short-answer and extended response questions. These replicate the questions you will be asked in your A Level exam. You will also complete essay based questions that will be assessed. The aim of these are for you to practice your revision techniques, practice timing of answers, practice exam technique and get feedback on your exam practice. The key to assessment is to revise thoroughly, but to reflect on your assessment to track and improve your performance in exams. This is why peer assessment will be used as a learning strategy. Within lesson staff will also challenge you through differentiated input, differentiated output and differentiated questioning.

Independent regulation: Homework, Revision and SIS

Academic targets: Every 2 weeks you will set yourself an academic target to achieve over the 2 week cycle in your '10th' Psychology lesson (This is the day that you don't have Psychology scheduled on your timetable). The objective of this target is to allow you to work smartly, focusing of particular areas of the course that need reflection and refinement to aid your progress and attainment in Psychology.

All homework will be set on BrightSpace. This will include a range of activities including research beyond the content covered in lessons, practice questions, group work, revision for assessments and consolidation of knowledge.

At A Level it is good practice to be revising throughout the year. Assessment notifications will be set on BrightSpace, but the revision for this will not be explicitly set, as this is part of you being an independent learner.

SIS work will be due every 4 weeks, with a focus on completing and marking exam questions on previous content to aid revision and practicing exam technique. Deadlines for this will be set on BrightSpace, and staff will monitor your completion of your SIS.

Enrichment themes

Students develop a better understanding of themselves, others and the wider world through developing empathy, tolerance and an appreciation of how complex behaviour is. This transfers to a range of careers in the health and social services sector.

Where Next?

Year 13 is applied Psychology. You will study Clinical and Criminal psychology, using your knowledge from the 4 different approaches studies in year 12 to explain Clinical disorders and criminal behaviour. Issues and debates is the consolidation of the whole course, using your knowledge from the 2 years of content to argue different debates in Psychology.