

Welcome to Year 13 Psychology

Psychology is the scientific study of human behavior. The focus in year 12 was to study theories of behaviour and apply these to explain a range of behaviours. Whereas, year 13 is Applied Psychology. Across this year you will look at specific behaviours and explain them from various theoretical perspectives, including explaining how to modify behaviours via therapeutic interventions. This year is designed to make you think as a Psychologist; to have a holistic understanding of behaviors and psychological research. The focus of the year is:

- Applications of Psychology > Clinical Psychology and Criminal Psychology
- Psychological skills (Synoptic content) > Issues & Debates, Research methods & Classic Studies

Assessment and Feedback

Across the year you will have a range of assessments, this will include a range of questions including short and long answered, scenario and method questions. The aim of these are for you to practice your revision techniques, practice timing of answers, practice exam technique and to 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 startergy, so you can understand what the examiner is looking for.

Each term you will have a large timed assessment with each teacher, and 2 small essay based assessments.

Structured Independent Study (SIS)

Learning content is only half the battle in Psychology. The key skills that you need to develop in Psychology is the ability to understand what the questions are asking you, and to write concise, accurate and well applied answers. The only way that you can develop these skills is to practice the exam questions, and this is the focus of your SIS in Psychology. Every 3 weeks you will need to complete an A Level paper that focuses on either AS or A2 content, you are required to mark this paper, and reflect on your answers to aid further revision. Your teachers will set deadlines for this, and monitor your completion of your SIS. An additional skills you develop from your SIS is managing your time effectively, as this is independent work in addition to your classwork and homework.

Homework

A range of homework tasks will be set by both your teachers when appropriate (around 3 hours a week), this will be in addition to your independent SIS work above. Homework will include researching beyond the content covered in lessons, practice questions, group work, revision for regular assessments and consolidation of knowledge.

Exams

You will sit 3 exams at the end of your A Level - these are outlined below

Exam	Paper 1: Foundations of Psychology	Paper 2: Applications in Psychology	Paper 3: Psychological Skills
Timing	2 hours	2 hours	2 hours
Marks	90 marks	90 marks	70 marks

Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 Approaches • 20 marks of Issues & Debates (8 & 12 mark) • All stats tests 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clinical Psychology (60%) • Criminal Psychology (40%) • All stats tests 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research methods (26%) (all stats tests) • Classic studies (26%) • Issues & debates (48%) (12 & 20 mark)
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