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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Psychology** | | | | | | | | | |
| **Key Stage 4:**  **N/A** | | | | | **Key Stage 5:**  **AQA** | | | | |
| **Year 7** | **Year 8** | | **Year 9** | **Year 10** | | **Year 11** | **Year 12** | | **Year 13** |
|  |  | |  |  | |  | 6 lessons per week | | 6 lessons per week |
|  | | | | | | | | | |
| **Staff** | | **Role** | | | **Staff** | | | **Role** | |
| **T. Ahmed** | | Subject Leader | | |  | | |  | |

**Intent: what are we trying to achieve with our curriculum?**

It is our intention to encourage students to become critical thinkers, through obtaining the key skills required to evaluate various psychological concepts. Psychology gives students the ability to question their own behaviour and draw conclusions of different people’s actions, views, thoughts and beliefs; facilitating them to gain a further understanding of the wider world. The curriculum will encourage students to value the importance of psychological research and promote curiosity of the human mind and body.

Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of psychological concepts, theories, research studies, research methods and ethical issues within Psychology. Knowledge and understanding of research methods and practical research skills is a crucial part of the curriculum. Students will be given the opportunity to design and carry out their own research in a safe environment which will enable them to practice analysis and interpreting data.

Throughout the course students will work collaboratively and they will also be encouraged to think independently during lessons. Through teacher modelling, we encourage our students to demonstrate manners, respect and tolerance in lessons. This allows students to participate in class discussions in a confident manner. The curriculum will include a variety of topics, for example, memory, schizophrenia and forensic psychology which will also include a range of differentiated resources to ensure all students can access the learning.

**Implementation: how do we deliver our curriculum?**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Module 1** | **Module 2** | **Module 3** | **Module 4** | **Module 5** | **Module 6** |
| **Year 12** | Paper 1: Introductory topics in Psychology (Social Influence and Research Methods) | Paper 1: Introductory topics in Psychology (Research Methods and Attachment) | Paper 1: Introductory topics in Psychology (Attachment and Memory) | Paper 1: Introductory topics in Psychology (Psychopathology)  Paper 2: Psychology in context (Approaches in Psychology) | Paper 2: Psychology in Context (Biopsychology) | Paper 2: Psychology in context |
| **Year 13** | Paper 3: Issues and options in Psychology (Issues and debates in Psychology) | Paper 3: Issues and options in Psychology (Forensic Psychology and Schizophrenia) | Paper 3: Issues and options in Psychology (Schizophrenia and Relationships) | Recap Research Methods  Revision paper 1, 2 and 3 | Revision | Public Examinations |

Psychology A-Level is a two-year course which follows the AQA specification and includes three units each assessed by an examination.

* Paper 1: Memory, Social Influence, Attachment and Psychopathology
* Paper 2: Research methods, Approaches to Psychology and Biopsychology
* Paper 3: Issues and debates, Relationships, Schizophrenia and Forensic Psychology

**In Psychology, the curriculum will:**

* Enable all students complete an end of unit assessment to assess their understanding.
* Allow students to engage in revision conferences with experienced practitioners. These activities allow students to gain valuable insight into the subject and the demands of the examination.
* Start with a ‘Do Now’ for each lesson which will be a short review of previous learning.
* Allow students to critically understand the world around them using Psychological concepts.
* Allow students to have regular engagement with marking and feedback to self-manage and take ownership of their progress.
* Be made accessible to all learners with the use of differentiation. For example, writing frames, scaffolding, modelling, challenges and the use of images to enhance learning.
* Build on the writing skills students have acquired in English. This also compliments other subjects such as, Mathematics and Science.
* Provide a variety of methods including whole-class lessons, group work and individual work to assist students in learning.
* Ensure students achieve their full potential in Psychology. Students will be regularly assessed through written assessment that includes short questions, extended essays and research method questions that will embed key elements of the mark schemes. Students will also complete end of unit assessments and mock exams to allow the teacher to identify any misconceptions regarding a specific topic. Each assessment will be followed by in-lesson detailed feedback to address any gaps in knowledge before moving on to the next topic.
* Develop verbal skills through discussions.
* Give students the opportunity to revisit content from the lessons as they will be set regular homework. This ensures learning is extended further. All homework will be recorded on Show My Homework.
* Ensure students are provided with both written and verbal feedback to promote progress

**Impact: what difference is our curriculum making to pupils?**

Progress for every assessment and homework will be tracked. Students will also have an assessment tracker in their folder. This will allow them to form specific targets in order to enhance their progress in Psychology. The teacher will be able to identify any common topics students are struggling with and provide necessary intervention, as well as adapting their future planning to enhance learning within the class.

**Psychology students will:**

* Develop enthusiasm for the subject, including developing the desire and skills to continue to engage with learning after they have completed their formal education preparing them for the next stage of their education or working life.
* Enjoy lessons and make progress.
* Meet all the expectations from the teacher.
* Develop skills required for university as they read research papers and critically evaluate papers.
* Become hardworking, independent learners who are highly motivated to achieve their full potential.

**Further Information and Guidance**

**GCSE Subject Information Sheet**

**Sixth Form Information Sheet**