



Years 12 & 13 Curriculum

A Level: Psychology



Students will sit a mock examination and an assessment in Year 12 and two mock examinations in Year 13.

Year 12	Term 1 (Autumn)		Term 2 (Spring)		Term 3 (Summer)	
	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Topic	Research Methods	Social Influence & Memory	Approaches & Biopsychology	Psychopathology	Attachment	Issues & Debates
Key Concepts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aims, Hypotheses, Variables Controls and Standardisation Experimental Types Experimental Designs Ethics Sampling Observational Techniques Self-Report Techniques Correlations Maths Skills Quantitative Analysis Graphical Representation Sign test of significance Peer Review Psychology and the economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Types and explanations of social Conformity Asch's lines study on conformity plus variations Obedience & Milgram Social situational variables Social psychological explanations Dispositional explanations Resistance to social influence Minority influence and social change Capacity, Coding, Duration Models of Memory (MSM, WMM, LTM) Theories of Forgetting EWT including misleading information, anxiety, and the cognitive interview 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Origins of Psychology Behaviourism: classical conditioning and operant conditioning Social Learning Theory Cognitive Approach Biological Approach The Nervous System Endocrine system and fight or flight Neurons & Synaptic Transmission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Definitions of abnormality Characteristics of phobias, depression, OCD Behaviourist explanations and treatments of phobias Cognitive explanations and treatments of depression Biological explanations and treatments of OCD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infant-caregiver interaction Schaffer's study and stages of attachment Animal studies Bowlby's Monotropic Theory Learning Theory of Attachment Ainsworth's Strange Situation Cultural Variations of Attachment Bowlby's Maternal Deprivation Theory Effects of Institutionalisation Attachment and later relationships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gender Bias Culture Bias Free Will / Determinism Nature / nurture Holism / reductionism Idiographic / nomothetic Ethical implications / social sensitivity

Year 13	Term 1 (Autumn)		Term 2 (Spring)		Term 3 (Summer)	
	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Topic	Research Methods (Year 2) & Biopsychology (Year 2)	Relationships	Schizophrenia	Aggression	Revision & Exam Preparation	
Key Concepts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Correlations Case Studies Content Analyses Features of Science Reliability & Validity Probability and Significance Inferential statistical testing Psychological reporting Localisation of function Plasticity and functional recovery Hemispheric Lateralisation Ways of investigating the brain Biological Rhythms Exogenous Zeitgebers and Endogenous Pacemakers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sexual selection and human reproductive behaviour Factors affecting attraction: Self-disclosure, Physical attractiveness, Filter theory Theories: Social exchange theory, Equity theory, Rusbult's investment model, Duck's phase model Virtual relationships in social media Parasocial relationships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diagnosis and classification Biological explanations and treatments Psychological explanations and treatments Interactionism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neural and hormonal mechanisms in aggression Genetic factors in aggression The ethological explanation of aggression Evolutionary explanations of human aggression Social psychological explanations of human aggression Institutional aggression in the context of prisons Media influences on aggression The role of desensitisation, disinhibition, and cognitive priming 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student voice-led Revision from the whole two years 	




Years 12 & 13 Assessment

A Level: Psychology



All students will sit an assessment and a mock examination in Year 12 and two mock examinations in Year 13.

	Year 12		Year 13		Revision Resources
	Assessment	Mock Exam	Mock Exam	Mock Exam	
	Autumn Term	Summer Term	Autumn Term	Spring Term	
Style of Assessment	Short answer questions and essay style questions 8 marks and 16 marks. This section will also include a mathematical element too	Short answer questions and essay style questions 8 marks and 16 marks. This section will also include a mathematical element too	Short answer questions, and 8 mark and 16-mark longer questions. This will also include a mathematical element course and issues and debates <i>(studied in the summer term of Year 12)</i>	Short answer questions, and 8 mark and 16-mark longer questions. This section will include a mathematical element too	Kennet Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core Questions • Knowledge Organisers • Learning Habits External Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • www.tutor2u.net/psychology • www.psychologywizard.net • www.physicsandmathstutor.com • www.psychboost.com You can also find additional revision material on Frog 
Topics Assessed	Social Influence, Memory, Research Methods: Everything that has been studied on the course up until Christmas	Approaches, Psychopathology, Attachment, Research Methods: Everything that has been studied on the course from January	Paper 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approaches • Biopsychology • Research Methods 	Paper 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues & Debates • Relationships • Schizophrenia • Aggression 	