

Subject: Psychology

Year Group: 12

Term One

An introduction to psychology and how the scientific method is applied. We then move on to exploring the key approaches within psychology and how they have contributed to our understanding of the human brain and behaviour, this includes behaviourism, psychoanalysis and humanistic approaches. The term finishes with an in-depth study of biopsychology which involves assessing the interaction of our physiological processes with our emotions and behaviour including areas of the brain and biological rhythms. The term includes opportunities to design and carry out small scale psychological research to develop skills in applying scientific procedures and analysing data.

Term Two

We move on to looking at psychology in context, beginning with the cognitive topic of memory and forgetting. Here we examine theories and research of how memories form and what could go wrong in the process which could lead to forgetting, we apply this to eye-witness testimony to make a judgement as to how accurate it is and how the work of psychologists can improve it.

The next topic is social influence where we find out about historical and contemporary research which tries to explain and predict how humans will behave in different social situations, we focus on the topics of conformity and obedience.

There will be further opportunities to carry out research so learners can continue to develop their skills.

Term Three

The students will learn about attachment theories, including research on humans and on children from deprived backgrounds such as the war or the Romanian orphanages. The final topic is psychopathology where learners will increase their knowledge of the symptoms, explanations and treatments for disorders including depression, phobias and obsessive compulsive disorder.

All students will complete a full research practical, following the university format for psychological research including ethical clearance and the peer review process.

