

KS5 Curriculum Plan 2025-2026

Year 12	TOPIC	LP1	LP2	LP3	LP4	LP5
		<i>Approaches in Psychology</i>	<i>Memory</i>	<i>Attachment</i>	<i>Social Influence Clinical psychology and mental health</i>	<i>Issues and Debates in Psychology Research methods in psychology</i>
	Knowledge	The origins of psychology and how it emerged as a science by separating it from its broader philosophical roots	The different types of memory and how to move knowledge from short to long-term memory The process and features of the working memory model How and why eyewitness testimony can be unreliable and practical ways to mitigate this	How attachments are formed The impact of interactions, deprivation and institutionalisation on the development of child and adult attachments The role of animals in the study of attachment and associated ethical and generalisability issues	The different types of conformity and factors affecting conformity Ethical issues associated with conformity research The role of minority influence The different definitions of abnormality The behavioural, emotional and cognitive characteristics of phobias, depression and OCD The explanations and treatments for phobias, depression and OCD	The role of Psychology in Society Psychological concepts, theories, research studies, research methods and ethical issues Theoretical, practical and ethical considerations influencing choice of topic, choice of method(s) and the conduct of research.
	Skills	Developing psychological imagination Evaluating research methods in psychology and using this to undertake psychological research Critical analysis of a range of psychological models, theories and research Practical application of research Calculation of inferential statistics Essay writing: analysis and evaluation Using research evidence to support an refute explanations Developing presentation skills				
	Key Vocab	Hypothesis, Operationalisation, Variables, Sampling, Pilot study, Case study, Validity, Reliability, Generalisability, Quantitative, Qualitative, Primary data, Meta-analysis, Statistics	Coding, Episodic, Semantic, Procedural, Central executive, Phonological loop, Visuo-spatial sketchpad, Episodic buffer, Proactive interference, Retroactive interference, Retrieval failure	Separation anxiety, Stranger anxiety, Reciprocity, Interactional synchrony, Imprinting, Monotropic, Maternal deprivation, Institutionalisation, Internal working model	Conformity, Internalisation, Identification, Compliance, Informational social influence, Normative social influence, Agentic state, Dispositional explanation, Authoritarian personality, Locus of control Statistical infrequency, Social norms, Ideal mental health, Failure to function adequately, Phobia, Depression, Obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD)	Gender, culture, free will, determinism, nature, nurture, holism, reductionism, idiographic, nomothetic

Year 13	TOPIC	LP1	LP2	LP3	LP4	LP5
		<i>Biopsychology</i>	<i>Forensic Psychology Schizophrenia</i>	<i>Schizophrenia Gender</i>	<i>Statistics Issues and Debates</i>	<i>Revision</i>
	Knowledge	The divisions of the nervous system: central and peripheral (somatic and autonomic) and the structure and function of sensory, relay and motor neurons The process of synaptic transmission The function of the endocrine system Localisation of function in the brain and hemispheric lateralisation Plasticity and functional recovery of the brain after trauma and ways of studying the brain Biological rhythms	The differences between the top-down approach and bottom-up approach to offender profiling The biological explanation of offending behaviour Psychological explanations of offending behaviour Approaches to dealing with offending behaviour The classification of schizophrenia and the positive and negative symptoms Biological and non-biological explanations for schizophrenia The effectiveness of different treatments	The difference between sex and gender The role of chromosomes and hormones in sex and gender and how atypical sex chromosome patterns impact individuals. Cognitive explanations of gender development Social explanations of gender development	How and when to use a range of statistical tests How to use statistical tables and critical values when interpretation the significance of Type 1 and Type 2 errors The numerous issues and debates in psychology.	Preparation and revision for A level exams.
	Skills	Evaluation of appropriate methods for the conduct of research Use of research evidence to support and refute explanations Reading various vignettes and applying different treatments to schizophrenic patients, using research to support their decisions Essay writing: analysis and evaluation Considering the wider implications of psychological research Developing lines of argument and discursive skills				
	Key Vocab	Excitation, Inhabitation, Endocrine system, Hormones, Adrenaline, Localisation, Hemispheric lateralisation, Plasticity, Circadian, Infradian, Ultradian, Endogenous pacemaker, Exogenous zeitgebers, Nature vs Nurture,	Top-down approach , Bottom-up approach , Atavistic form, Genetics, Neural , Criminal personality , Level of moral reasoning , Cognitive distortions Co-morbidity, Dopamine hypothesis, Family dysfunction, Dysfunctional thought processing, Antipsychotics, Cognitive behavioural therapy, Token economy, Diathesis stress model	Bem Sex Role Inventory, Testosterone, Oestrogen, Oxytocin, Klinefelter's syndrome, Turner's syndrome, Gender schema theory, Oedipus complex, Electra complex, Gender dysphoria	Statistical significance, Reliability, Validity, Skewed, Anomaly, Distribution, Gender, culture, free will, determinism, nature, nurture, holism, reductionism, idiographic, nomothetic	