

Subject: Psychology

Year Group: 13

Term One

An recap of the main topics from the first year is followed by an exploration of the issues, debates and approaches which are applied to the different areas of study in psychology. This is the opportunity for learners to develop their discussion skills and apply real life problems to the study of psychology and really see how it can impact on the day-to-day lives of individuals around the world.

We move on to the first of the applied topics. Here students have a choice – one subject from three options. These include relationships, gender or cognition and development. The relationships topic examines the different types of relationship, how they function and fail and whether there are universal patterns. Gender is a highly contemporary issue, assessing the male and female roles and the impact of nature and nurture. Cognition and development looks at how we learn and when people can have different ways of developing, e.g. autism.

Term Two

We move on to the second and third options blocks. The initial choice students make is between schizophrenia, eating behaviours and stress, each of which is based on developing an understanding of symptoms, diagnosis, explanations and treatment.

The third option block gives the students a choice between aggression, forensic psychology and addiction, highly relevant and applied topics.

For all options the students will develop exam and essay skills and carry out small scale research to develop their knowledge of how to apply the scientific process. Each class will be given the option choices at the end of year 12 to ensure the curriculum meets their interests, strengths and progression needs where possible.

Term Three

A thorough revision of the year 12 topics including exam preparation and timing precedes revision of those topics covered in year 13. Revision activities can be targeted on an individual basis using the support resources the students have access to throughout their course.

