

Curriculum Rationale: Psychology

Question	Response
<p>What do we aim to achieve through the teaching of our subject?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a passion for psychology. • Develop their knowledge and understanding of different schools of psychology including social psychology, cognitive psychology, biological psychology and learning theories. • Develop an understanding of how the different schools of psychology can be applied to clinical psychology and criminological psychology. • Develop analytical and evaluative skills in relation to theories, studies and research methods from psychology. • Develop the ability to see two sides of an argument and come to a balanced conclusion using psychological evidence in support of the arguments.
<p>What are our learners entitled to?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fully prepared lessons and resources. • Knowledgeable teachers that provide effective support in a welcoming learning environment. • Engaging lessons which inspire, nurture, and develop learners. • Prompt marking with effective feedback.
<p>What building blocks are we trying to establish in preparation for further study?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective short answer and essay writing skills • Effective note taking and summarising. • Mathematical skills as used in psychology. • Analytical skills. • Independent study. • Effective revision techniques. • Organisation skills.
<p>How does the curriculum we teach reference our local contexts?</p>	<p>A level psychology studies human behaviour and the mind. This is applicable in interactions with other people in a variety of situations. It can be used to understand reward systems used in school and in local shops, how the memory works in situations such as visiting health care settings and how to combat prejudice if they encounter it. Psychology also enables students to understand the causes, treatments and effects of mental health issues and develop a better understanding when encountering people with mental health issues in the community.</p>
<p>What skills do we seek to develop in our learners?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication skills, both verbal and written • Extended writing skills. • Evaluative and analytical skills. • The ability to see both sides of an argument. • Organisation skills to include self-discipline.
<p>How our curriculum design is inclusive in respect to different:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethnicities • Religions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prejudice is a topic in social psychology, how it may be created and how it can be reduced in relation to various groups. • Mental health is a topic in year 13 which is approached in an inclusive, empathetic manner.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sexual Orientations • Genders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jury bias due to attractiveness, race and dress is studied in Year 13 to make people aware of possible biases. • There are studies from a range of countries, e.g. Li et al. from China. • Part of evaluation of studies is looking at the possible effect of culture on the results and being wary of applying results to all cultures.
<p>How we enrich our students experience of our subject though additional or extra-curricular activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KS5 sessions focussed on how to answer exam style questions. • Possibility of an inter-school competition for year 12 in the summer term.