

Curriculum Design Key Stage 5 2026-27

Psychology							
		Term1		Term2		Term3	
		Term 1.1	Term 1.2	Term 2.1	Term 2.2	Term 3.1	Term 3.2
12	Theme	3.2.3. Research Methods 3.2.1. Approaches 3.2.1.1. Biopsychology	3.2.3. Research Methods 3.2.2. Clinical Psychology & Mental Health	3.2.3. Research Methods 3.1.1. Social Influence	3.2.3. Research Methods 3.1.2. Memory	4.2.3. Research Methods 3.1.3. Attachment	4.2.3. Research Methods 4.31 Issues and Debates in Psychology
	Concept	Psychology in context	Introductory topics and psychology in context	Introductory topics and psychology in context	Introductory topics and psychology in context	Introductory topics and psychology in context	Issues and options in Psychology & psychology in context
	Skills Knowledge	<u>The basic assumptions of the following approaches:</u> - The learning approach: behaviourism. - The learning approach: social learning theory. - The cognitive approach. - The biological approach. - The psychodynamic approach. - The humanistic approach. - Comparison of approaches. <u>Biopsychology</u> - The divisions of the nervous system and endocrine system. - Neurons and synaptic transmission. <u>Introduction to research methods</u> - Experimental methods. - Observational techniques. - Self-report techniques. - Correlations. <u>3.2.3.1. The Scientific processes</u> - Aims. - Hypotheses. - Sampling methods. - Pilot studies. - Experimental designs. - Observational designs. - Designing questionnaires/features of questionnaires. - The manipulation and control of variables. - Controls. - Demand characteristics. - Ethics. <u>3.2.3.2. Data handling and analysis</u> - Quantitative and qualitative data. - Primary and secondary data.	<u>Clinical Psychology & Mental Health</u> - Definitions in the field of mental health. - The behavioural, cognitive and emotional characteristics of phobias, depression and OCD. - The behavioural explanation of phobias. - The behavioural treatment of phobias. - The cognitive explanation of depression. - The cognitive treatment of depression. - The biological explanation of OCD. - The biological treatment of OCD. <u>Introduction to research methods</u> - Experimental methods. - Observational techniques. - Self-report techniques. - Correlations. <u>3.2.3.1. The Scientific processes</u> - Aims. - Hypotheses. - Sampling methods. - Pilot studies. - Experimental designs. - Observational designs. - Designing questionnaires/features of questionnaires. - The manipulation and control of variables. - Controls. - Demand characteristics. - Ethics. <u>3.2.3.2. Data handling and analysis</u> - Quantitative and qualitative data.	<u>Social Influence</u> - Types and explanations of conformity. - Research into conformity: Asch (1951) - Explanations for obedience. - Research into obedience: Milgram (1963). - Explanations of resistance to social influence. - Minority influence. <u>Introduction to research methods</u> - Experimental methods. - Observational techniques. - Self-report techniques. - Correlations. <u>3.2.3.1. The Scientific processes</u> - Aims. - Hypotheses. - Sampling methods. - Pilot studies. - Experimental designs. - Observational designs. - Designing questionnaires/features of questionnaires. - The manipulation and control of variables. - Controls. - Demand characteristics. - Ethics. <u>3.2.3.2. Data handling and analysis</u> - Quantitative and qualitative data.	<u>Memory</u> - The MSM of memory - The working memory model. - Explanations for forgetting: interference and retrieval failure. - Factors affecting the accuracy of eyewitness testimony (EWT); Leading questions, post-event discussion & anxiety. The use of the cognitive interview. <u>Introduction to research methods</u> - Experimental methods. - Observational techniques. - Self-report techniques. - Correlations. <u>3.2.3.1. The Scientific processes</u> - Aims. - Hypotheses. - Sampling methods. - Pilot studies. - Experimental designs. - Observational designs. - Designing questionnaires/features of questionnaires. - The manipulation and control of variables. - Controls. - Demand characteristics. - Ethics. <u>3.2.3.2. Data handling and analysis</u> - Quantitative and qualitative data.	<u>Attachment</u> - Animal studies of attachment (Harlow and Lorenz). - Explanations of attachment. - Ainsworth's Strange Situation. - Cultural variations (Van Ijzendoorn). - Bowlby's theory of maternal deprivation. - The effects of institutionalisation, including the English and Romanian Adoptee (ERA) Study. - The influence of early attachment on later relationships. <u>Research Methods</u> - Case studies	<u>Issues and Debates</u> - Gender bias including androcentrism and alpha and beta bias. - Culture bias including ethnocentrism and cultural relativism. - Free will and determinism: hard and soft determinism; biological, environmental and psychic determinism. The scientific emphasis on causal explanations. - The nature versus nurture debate: the relative importance of heredity and environment in determining behaviour; the interactionist approach. - Holism and reductionism: levels of explanation in psychology. Biological reductionism and environmental (stimulus-response) reductionism. Idiographic and nomothetic approaches to psychological investigation. - Social sensitivity in psychological research. <u>Research methods:</u> - Types of validity across all methods of investigation; face validity, concurrent

13		- Descriptive statistics. - Presentation and display of quantitative data. - Distributions. - Introduction to statistical testing.	- Primary and secondary data. - Descriptive statistics. - Presentation and display of quantitative data. - Distributions. - Introduction to statistical testing.	- Primary and secondary data. - Descriptive statistics. - Presentation and display of quantitative data. - Distributions. - Introduction to statistical testing.	- Primary and secondary data. - Descriptive statistics. - Presentation and display of quantitative data. - Distributions. - Introduction to statistical testing.	- Content analysis & coding - Reliability across all methods of investigation. Ways of measuring reliability: test-retest and inter-observer; improving reliability.	validity, ecological validity and temporal validity. - Measurement of validity. Improving validity.
	Wider Curriculum						
	Theme	4.3.5. Schizophrenia 4.2.3 Research Methods	4.3.2. Relationships 4.2.3 Research Methods	4.3.9 Forensics 4.2.3 Research Methods	4.2.2. Biopsychology 4.2.3 Research Methods	Revision	Revision
	Concept	Issues and options in psychology and psychology in context	Issues and options in psychology and psychology in context	Issues and options in psychology and psychology in context	Psychology in context	Revision	Revision
	Skills Knowledge	<u>Schizophrenia</u> - Positive symptoms of schizophrenia including hallucinations and delusions. Negative symptoms of Schizophrenia, including speech poverty and avolition. Issues in Diagnosis: co-morbidity, culture and gender bias and symptom overlap. - Biological explanations for Schizophrenia: genetics and neural correlates, including the dopamine hypothesis. - Drug therapy: typical and atypical antipsychotics. - Psychological explanations for Schizophrenia: family dysfunction and cognitive explanations, including dysfunctional thought processing. - Cognitive behaviour therapy and family therapy as used in the treatment of Schizophrenia. - The importance of an interactionist approach in explaining and treating Schizophrenia; the diathesis-stress model. <u>Research Methods:</u> - Data analysis; kinds of data - Data analysis; descriptive statistics - Data analysis: graphs - Mathematical content - Peer review - Psychology & the economy - Case studies - Content analysis - Assessing & improving reliability	<u>Relationships</u> - Factors affecting attraction in romantic relationships: self-disclosure; physical attractiveness, including the matching hypothesis; filter theory, including social demography, similarity in attitudes and complementarity. - Theories of romantic relationships: social exchange theory, equity theory and Rusbult's investment model of commitment, satisfaction, comparison with alternatives and investment. Duck's phase model of relationship breakdown: intra-psychic, dyadic, social and grave dressing phases. - Online relationships: self-disclosure, use of deception, effects of absence of gating. - Parasocial relationships: levels of parasocial relationships, the absorption addiction model and the attachment theory explanation. <u>Research Methods:</u> - Types of validity - Types of data; nominal/ordinal/interval	<u>Forensics</u> - Offender profiling: the typology approach, including organised and disorganised types of offenders; the data-driven approach, including investigative Psychology; geographical profiling. - Biological explanations of offending behaviour: genetics and neural explanations. - Psychological explanations of offending behaviour: Eysenck's theory of the criminal personality; cognitive explanations; level of moral reasoning and cognitive distortions, including hostile attribution bias and minimalization; differential association theory. - Dealing with offending behaviour: the aims of custodial sentencing and the psychological effects of custodial sentencing. Recidivism. Behaviour modification in custody. Anger management and restorative justice programmes. <u>Research Methods:</u> - Probability & Significance - The sign test - Choosing a statistical test	<u>Biopsychology:</u> - Localisation of function in the brain and hemispheric lateralisation: motor, somatosensory, visual, auditory and language centres; Broca's and Wernicke's areas, split brain research. - Plasticity and functional recovery of the brain after trauma. - Split brain research - Ways of studying the brain: scanning techniques, including functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI); electroencephalogram (EEGs) and event-related potentials (ERPs); post-mortem examinations. <u>Research Methods:</u> - Reporting psychological investigations - Features of science - Design a study.		



	Wider Curriculum						
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