

# Psychology Curriculum

## Aims

- develop essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of the subject and how they relate to each other
- develop a deep appreciation of the skills, knowledge and understanding of scientific methods
- develop competence and confidence in a variety of practical, mathematical and problem-solving skills
- develop interest in and enthusiasm for the subject, including developing an interest in further study and careers.
- understand how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the sciences contribute to the success of the economy and society.

Building on key stage 3

Building on GCSE Science: When studying science at school you will have learned about working Scientifically. By studying this, you will have developed your scientific thinking and a range of research skills including experimental skills, such as hypotheses, identifying variables, planning and carrying out investigations, drawing conclusions, analysing data and evaluating methods and findings. Working Scientifically is closely aligned to the 'Research methods' topic, where you will find that you're already familiar with the following: • designing research • conducting research • analysing and interpreting data.

Building on GCSE Maths: For many studies, mathematics and statistics play a key role. For example, in a laboratory experiment the researcher(s) will collect data and then use maths to identify patterns and trends. Similarly, when you carry out quantitative research in Psychology, you will collect, handle and interpret data to test your hypotheses, and report results. This will support the detection of patterns and trends in the data you have collected. Your mathematical knowledge will enable you to understand and interpret the data found in your psychological research. Furthermore, it will also make a significant contribution to your analytical and critical skills in all the topics you study in A-level Psychology.

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### Autumn 1

**P1: Social Influence**

**P1: Memory**

### Autumn 2

**P1: Attachment**

**P2: Research Methods**

### Spring 1

**P2: Approaches/  
Biopsychology**

**P2: Psychopathology**

### Spring 2

**Mastery: Social  
Influence/Attachment  
Approaches**

**Mastery: Memory, RM,  
Psychopathology**

### Summer 1

**Mastery: Social  
Influence/Attachment  
Approaches + Exams**

**Mastery: Memory, RM,  
Psychopathology + Exams**

### Summer 2

**Humanistic Approach +  
HE & Work experience**

**Psychodynamic  
Approach + HE & Work  
experience**

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**P3: Schizophrenia**

**P3: Forensic**

**P3: Gender**

**P3: Issues and  
Debates**

**P2: Research Methods**

**P2: Research Methods**

**P2: Biopsychology**

**P2: Approaches**

**Mastery**

**Mastery**

Assessment	Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology	Paper 2: Psychology in Context	Paper 3: Issues and Options in Psychology
What's assessed	Social Influence, Memory, Attachment, Psychopathology	Approaches, Biopsychology, Research Methods x2	Issues & Debates, Gender, Schizophrenia, Forensic
Assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• written exam: 2 hours</li> <li>• 96 marks in total</li> <li>• 33.3% of A-level</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• written exam: 2 hours</li> <li>• 96 marks in total</li> <li>• 33.3% of A-level</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• written exam: 2 hours</li> <li>• 96 marks in total</li> <li>• 33.3% of A-level</li> </ul>

## Assessment objectives (AOs)

- AO1: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of scientific ideas, processes, techniques and procedures.
- AO2: Apply knowledge and understanding of scientific ideas, processes, techniques and procedures:
  - in a theoretical context
  - in a practical context
  - when handling qualitative data
  - when handling quantitative data.
- AO3: Analyse, interpret and evaluate scientific information, ideas and evidence, including in relation to issues, to:
  - make judgements and reach conclusions
  - develop and refine practical design and procedures.