



Psychology

Aims:

Developing skills and knowledge will emerge through-

- understanding key psychological ideas and how they apply to the five schools of psychology
- research and investigation
- practical application of psychological concepts in research
- developing ideas to form judgments, draw conclusions and synthesise within classroom debates
- engaging with how psychology applies to everyday life

Content:

Psychology in year 9 introduces you to the scientific study of our mind and behaviour, leading you to question the foundation of human behaviour and our basic principles of learning. You will explore key foundations which drive ongoing debates within psychology and develop your ability to criticise existing theories. You will be encouraged to question the world around you, considering why psychology is important when exploring crime and deviance in society as well as how we can improve and develop mental health and wellbeing.

Curriculum Map

Year	Term	Curriculum	Assessment
9	Term 1	An introduction to psychology: we will be looking at the five key schools of psychology and exploring the debates which exist between key researchers in the field as well as the history of the discipline.	Written assessment in the form of an extended writing task. Extended learning research project
	Term 2	Criminal psychology: examining laws, social norms and values and how they all form part of our community. Explore the role of personality types and character traits in relation to criminal behaviour. Investigating notorious criminal cases and identify patterns of behaviour through criminal profiling.	A range of questions varying in level of skill in the form of knowledge recall. Class debate – speaking and listening assessment.
	Term 3	Mental health and wellbeing: we will explore what it means to be mentally healthy, mindfulness techniques as well as how psychologists work with individuals who experience mental health problems. Exploration of specific case studies and the most appropriate form of diagnosis and treatment for service users. Research design: you will begin to apply your knowledge to plan and design your own research proposal. This will draw on your mathematical/research methods skills to decide the best way to gather and analyse your data.	Presentation for the promotion of positive mental health and wellbeing campaign. A range of questions varying in level of skill in the form of knowledge recall. Written psychological report.

Assessment:



There are many opportunities to develop skills including: speaking and listening tasks, extended writing, report writing and more visual presentations of ideas. Part of your role as a psychologist is to critically evaluate, meaning there will be emphasis placed on your ability to critique your own and others work but also to question the bigger ideas as we learn more about the key research in psychology.

Extended Learning:

Our extended learning opportunities in psychology will challenge and extend your learning; you will be required to complete preparation tasks and research ahead of learning some of our most complex content. This will involve reading articles, excerpts from academic journals, completing internet research and gathering your own ideas before you then learn the content. We consolidate knowledge through tasks such as quizzes to ensure that content is embedded, something important with a scientific subject.

Connection to the JTFS Approach

Whole School Theme	How does Psychology support this?
STRIPE	Self-manager – As with all aspects of learning, self-organisation and control is vital. Team player/Participator – working in a collaborative manner to plan and research within key areas of psychology. Reflective and resilient – developing skills necessary to critique and evaluate. Innovate and create – an integral part of creating your own research proposal and ensuring originality. Enquirer – asking big questions and challenging established ideas and psychological theories.
STEAM	The process based learning with psychological research allows students to draw on their scientific and mathematical knowledge to form innovative ideas.
Literacy	Students will develop literacy skills through their speaking and listening assessment where they will need to plan and articulate a persuasive and powerful speech. They will be required to write clearly and cohesively about key ideas within psychology as well as developing comprehension skills through research.
Numeracy	Research methods is an integral part of psychology with all research being reliant on the skills core to science and maths. We will develop skills for analysing data, graph work, tables as well as working with results figures.
SMSC, British Values and Citizenship	We will explore cultural issues when applying research in psychology as well as how individual differences can impact results.