

Psychology

Intent:

Psychology is the scientific study of behaviour and the mind. It offers a unique educational experience that develops a distinctive and broad set of skills. It's located in scientific method and allows scope for extensive evaluation from a range of perspectives. The A/S and A Level course provides students with the exciting opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of psychology.

Psychology encourages learners to be inspired, motivated and challenged by following a broad, coherent, practical, satisfying and worthwhile course of study. The course provides insight into, and experience of, how psychology works, stimulating learners' curiosity and encouraging them to engage with psychology in their everyday lives, enabling them to make informed choices about further study and about career choices.

Students will have the opportunity to develop a wide-ranging set of key skills, including being able to communicate effectively using appropriate language, to interpret and critically assess scientific data, and to research and critically evaluate a range of sources. The specification also encourages the development of strong literacy and numeracy skills.

Through studying A/S and A Level Psychology students will develop essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of the subject and how they relate to each other; develop and demonstrate 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 their interest in and enthusiasm for the subject, including developing an interest in further study and careers associated with the subject; understand how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the sciences contribute to the success of the economy and society.

Implementation:

In Psychology a range of different teaching and learning strategies are employed to engage pupils and provide them with a comprehensive understanding of the key areas. Students will be involved in planning, conducting, analysing and reporting psychological research across a range of experimental and non-experimental methodologies and techniques.

Key themes are used to introduce students to some of the central areas of investigation in psychology. Each key theme is represented by a classic and a contemporary core study.

Students will also learn about the areas affecting mental health as well as studying, Criminal psychology and Sports and exercise psychology in the applied area.

Beyond the classroom:

Students are encouraged to read widely around the subject content and to explore real life applications. Where possible external links are used to provide a conference style approach to enhance further study.