Year 12

AS Psychology



1. Social Influence

This unit will focus on social psychology. Students will develop a critical appreciation of psychological research into conformity, obedience and social change, examining its validity and relevance to the real world.



2. Memory

This unit will focus on cognitive psychology. Students will develop a critical appreciation of models of memory, explanations of forgetting and factors that affect the accuracy of eye witness testimony, as well as their relevance in the real world.



3. Attachment

This unit will focus on developmental psychology. Students will develop an understanding of explanations for attachment in humans and animals, including factors affecting attachment formation and their implication on later development and relationships.



7. Psychopathology

This unit will focus on psychological disorders. Students will develop an understanding of the concept of abnormality before they go on to build on their knowledge of the behavioural, cognitive and biological approach by applying it to either phobias, depression or OCD.



6. Biopsychology

This unit will build on elements of GCSE Biology. Students will expand their understanding of technical terminology related to the structure and function of the nervous system and endocrinal system, going on to explain the role of adrenalin in the fight and flight response.



5. Approaches in Psychology

This unit will focus on different approaches in psychology. Students will assess the strengths, limitations and contribution of the learning approach, cognitive approach and biological approach.



4. Assessment Window 1

Students will consolidate all the content from social influence, memory and attachment, completing a mock on AS Psychology Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology.



8. Research Methods

Following the independent completion of this unit, students will review their knowledge and understanding of the nature and principles of science, the processes of reporting scientific research and quantitative data analysis.



9. Assessment Window 2

Students will consolidate all the content from social influence, memory, attachment, approaches in psychology, biopsychology, psychopathology and research methods, completing a mock on AS Psychology Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology and AS Psychology Paper 2: Psychology in Context.



10. A Level Content

Students will revisit the units 'approaches in psychology' and 'biopsychology'; here they will assess the strengths, limitations and contribution of the psychodynamic and humanistic approach and move on to develop an understanding of localisation and plasticity in brain functioning, ways of studying the brain and biological rhythms.

CAREERS: at every available opportunity, teachers will introduce and promote careers' links to the topics being studied.