



Psychology

	Content
Year 10 HT1	<u>Memory</u> In this first unit, students will learn about different types of memory and how memories are encoded and stored. They will then go on to study the structures of memory and will look at Murdock's serial position curve study before finishing the topic by studying memory as an active process and the factors affecting the accuracy of memory.
Year 10 HT2	<u>Perception</u> Within this unit, students will learn about the difference between sensation and perception and will focus on two opposing theories of perception: Gibson's direct theory of perception – the influence of nature and Gregory's constructivist theory of perception – the influence of nurture. Students will explore visual cues before considering examples and explanations for visual illusions and the different factors affecting perception.
Year 10 HT3 + 4	<u>Development</u> In this term, students will look at early brain development and consider the roles of nature versus nurture. They will explore the four stages of development through Piaget's stage theory and the development of intelligence and consider the effects of learning on development. Throughout this unit, students will explore a range of psychological studies and begin to critically evaluate these.
Year 10 HT5 + 6	<u>Research Methods</u> This unit provides an introduction to students into the role and importance of research in the understanding of psychology. Students will be introduced to key concepts including: developing testable hypotheses, types of variables and sampling methods. They will explore a range of different methods involved in research design, considering strengths and weaknesses of each research method and types of research for which they are suitable. This unit ends by looking at research procedures and the planning and conducting of research where students will be required to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of ethical considerations in psychological research. Students will also develop knowledge and awareness of data handling skills within this unit.
Year 11 HT1	<u>Social influence</u> In this first Paper 2 unit, students will explore social factors affecting conformity, obedience, prosocial behaviour and crowd and collective behaviour. Throughout this unit, students will explore a range of psychological studies and theories and begin to critically evaluate these.
Year 11 HT2	<u>Language, thought and communication</u> In this unit, students will explore the possible relationship between language and thought and the effect of language and thought on our view of the world. They will examine the differences between human and animal communication. Students will then look at different types of communication, examining the functions of eye contact and roles of body language and personal space before exploring theories of non-verbal behaviour and examining evidence suggesting why it may be innate or learnt.
Year 11 HT3	<u>Brain and Neuropsychology</u> Within this next unit, students will learn about the structure and function of the nervous system and the role of the autonomic nervous system. They will explore neuron structure and function and develop an understanding of how these processes interact. Students will learn about the structure and function of the brain before being introduced to neuropsychology where they will explore how the structure and function of the brain relate to behaviour and cognition and will gain a basic understanding of how neurological damage can affect motor abilities and behaviour. Again, students will explore a range of psychological studies and theories and begin to critically evaluate these.
Year 11 HT4	<u>Psychological Problems</u> In this final unit of the course, students will have an introduction to mental health and how the incidence of significant mental health problems changes over time. Students will consider the effects of significant mental health problems on individuals and society before then exploring characteristics, theories and interventions for clinical depression and addiction.