

Year 12 Psychology	
Half term 1	In order to introduce psychology and understand how research and experiments operate we begin by looking at research methods, this covers different types of psychological research, their importance, problems with research and ethics. We then begin approaches, where did psychology begin? We investigate different theories behind the study of mind and behaviour. We study behaviourism, social learning theory, cognitive, biological approaches.
Half term 2	We extend our teaching and learning of the biological approach and take a deeper look at biopsychology, looking at the nervous system, the endocrine system and the concept of fight or flight. We then move on to memory and investigate short term and long term memory, forgetting, eye-witness testimony and why we forget. We also try to locate where memory is within the brain.
Half term 3	In this half term we study social influence, why did the Nazi's commit such atrocities in the second world war? Are we all capable of such behaviour? We look at minority influence and how the views of society can change over time, we will learn about resistance and look at many studies and experiments that have been carried out to investigate social influence.
Half term 4	In this half term we will study attachment, identifying what it is, who we attach to, and the theories behind it. We will investigate animal studies and compare them to human research in to attachment. We will research the effects of institutionalisation, the impact on children who have not been able to form attachments and what this means for them in later life.
Half term 5	Psychopathology is the final year 12 topic which we investigate, this covers what is abnormal? Depression, OCD and phobias. We look at the different theories to each of these and study experiments and research carried out in these areas.
Half term 6	In this final term we revisit and build upon research methods as this continues throughout year 13, as does biopsychology and approaches, we will learn about 2 more, the psychodynamic and humanistic approach. We then get a head start and begin issues and debates which is our first year 13 topic. This is a large section which will also be used to evaluate other sections in your final exam. We look at the nature nurture debate, as well as how and why psychological research can be influenced in a number of ways such as genetic inheritance or free will.
Independent study expectations	This qualification is 100% exam taken at the end of year 13 by sitting 3 two hour papers. There are lots of practice exam papers, tests and mocks which will prepare you. Additionally students will be expected to read around the subject, using books articles and websites.
By the time you finish key stage 5 you'll be...	Able to talk confidently about psychology, research methods and ethics, understand human behaviour and how it is studied and what affects it.

Year 13 Psychology	
Half term 1	In the second year of your A-level we will explore the rest of the approaches, more research methods, more biopsychology and issues and debates in psychology. Biopsychology in year 2 looks at the brain in more detail, researching the effects of brain injury and also at biorhythms such as seasonal affective disorder (SAD) Also, this term we will begin our optional units starting with Relationships, we will look at different theories of relationships as well as the influence of modern day technology and stalking.
Half term 2	During this half term we complete relationships and move on to our second optional unit, Schizophrenia. We will investigate what it is, the different theories behind it and also the treatments available for the condition. We will discuss whether or not it is due to genetics or the environment.
Half term 3	We will complete schizophrenia and begin our final optional unit which is Forensic psychology. Here we take a look at how crime is defined and measured, what offending behaviour is, what causes crime, different types of offending behaviour and the theories behind it, as well as looking at how we deal with it, does prison work? What are the alternatives?
Half term 4	By now we have usually completed teaching the content and we begin in-class structured, semi-structured and independent revision, we will revisit all teaching and use a selection of revision aids to support us, including taught sessions, printed mind maps, past exam papers and mark schemes and discussion.
Half term 5	There will be a revision timetable for students to follow. Throughout the course we will continue to practise the maths element of research methods this includes statistical testing in year 13.
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By the time you finish key stage 5 you'll be...	Able to talk confidently about psychology, research methods and ethics, understand human behaviour and how it is studied and what affects it.