



Sixth Form (Y12-13)

	Year 12	Year 13
Half Term 1	<p>Paper 2 Approaches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to how psychology emerged as a science • Introduction to the main approaches used to explain behaviour: Behaviourism, Social Learning Theory, Biological and Evolutionary, Cognitive Approach and the influence of Cognitive Neuroscience, Psychodynamic and Humanistic 	<p>Year 2 Research Methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correlations, case studies, content analysis, ways of assessing and improving reliability and validity in research, probability and significance and the use of inferential statistics to analyse data, reporting psychological investigations and features of science. <p>Paper 3 Issues and Debates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender and culture in Psychology – universality and bias • Free will and determinism & the scientific emphasis on causal explanations. • The nature-nurture debate: the relative importance of heredity and environment in determining behaviour; the interactionist approach. • Holism and reductionism: • Ethical implications of research studies and theory, including reference to social sensitivity.
Half Term 2	<p>Paper 1 Psychopathology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definitions of abnormality • Behavioural, emotional and cognitive characteristics of OCD, depression and phobias. • Using the Behaviourist Approach to explain and treat phobias. • Using the Cognitive Approach to explain and treat depression. • Using the Biological Approach to explain and treat OCD. 	<p>Paper 3 Relationships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The evolutionary explanations for partner preferences, including the relationship between sexual selection and human reproductive behaviour. • Factors affecting attraction in romantic relationships. E.g, physical attractiveness • Theories of romantic relationships: social exchange theory, equity theory and Rusbult's investment model of commitment, satisfaction, comparison with alternatives and investment. Duck's phase model of relationship breakdown: intra-psychic, dyadic, social and grave dressing phases. • Virtual relationships in social media: self-disclosure in virtual relationships; effects of absence of gating on the nature of virtual relationships. Parasocial relationships.
Half Term 3	<p>Paper 1 Social Influence</p>	<p>Paper 3 Stress</p>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Types of conformity: internalisation, identification and compliance. Explanations for conformity: informational social influence and normative social influence, and variables affecting conformity including group size, unanimity and task difficulty as investigated by Asch. Conformity to social roles as investigated by Zimbardo. Explanations for obedience: agentic state and legitimacy of authority, and situational variables affecting obedience including proximity and location, as investigated by Milgram, and uniform. Dispositional explanation for obedience: the Authoritarian Personality. Explanations of resistance to social influence, including social support and locus of control. Minority influence and role of social influence processes in social change. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The physiology of stress, including general adaptation syndrome, the hypothalamic pituitaryadrenal system, the sympathomedullary pathway and the role of cortisol. The role of stress in illness, including reference to immunosuppression and cardiovascular disorders. Sources of stress: life changes and daily hassles. Workplace stress, including the effects of workload and control. Measuring stress: self-report scales and physiological measures, including skin conductance response. Individual differences in stress: personality types A, B & C and associated behaviours; hardiness, including commitment, challenge and control. Managing and coping with stress: drug therapy, stress inoculation therapy and biofeedback. Gender differences in coping with stress. The role of social support in coping with stress; types of social support.
Half Term 4	<p>Paper 1 Attachment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Caregiver-infant interactions in humans: reciprocity and interactional synchrony. Stages of attachment identified by Schaffer. Multiple attachments and the role of the father. Animal studies of attachment: Lorenz and Harlow. Explanations of attachment: learning theory and Bowlby's monotropic theory. The concepts of a critical period and an internal working model. Ainsworth's 'Strange Situation'. Types of attachment: secure, insecure-avoidant and insecure-resistant. Cultural variations in attachment, including van Ijzendoorn. Bowlby's theory of maternal deprivation. Romanian orphan studies: effects of institutionalisation. The influence of early attachment on childhood and adult relationships, including the role of an internal working model. 	<p>Paper 4 Aggression</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neural and hormonal mechanisms in aggression, including the roles of the limbic system, serotonin and testosterone. Genetic factors in aggression. The ethological and evolutionary explanations of human aggression. Social psychological explanations of human aggression, including the frustration-aggression hypothesis, social learning theory and de-individuation. Institutional aggression in the context of prisons: dispositional and situational explanations. Media influences on aggression, including the effects of computer games. The role of desensitisation, disinhibition and cognitive priming.



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Half Term 5	<p>Paper 1 Memory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Models of memory: The multi-store model of memory and the working memory models. Coding, capacity and duration of memory. Types of long-term memory: episodic, semantic, procedural. Explanations for forgetting: proactive and retroactive interference and retrieval failure due to absence of cues. Factors affecting the accuracy of eyewitness testimony: misleading information, including leading questions and post-event discussion; anxiety. Improving the accuracy of eyewitness testimony, including the use of the cognitive interview. 	Revision
Half Term 6	<p>Paper 2 Biopsychology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The divisions of the nervous system: central and peripheral The structure and function of sensory, relay and motor neurons. The process of synaptic transmission. The function of the endocrine system: glands and hormones. The fight or flight response. Localisation of function in the brain and hemispheric lateralisation: motor, somatosensory, visual, auditory and language centres, split brain research. Plasticity and functional recovery of the brain after trauma. Ways of studying the brain: scanning techniques, including functional magnetic resonance imaging; electroencephalogram and event-related potentials; post-mortem examinations. Biological rhythms: circadian, infradian and ultradian. The effect of endogenous pacemakers and exogenous zeitgebers on the sleep/wake cycle. <p><i>Year 1 Research Methods</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experiential methods, control of variables, experimental design, types of experiments, sampling, ethical issues and ways of dealing with them, pilot studies, observational techniques & design, self report techniques & design, data analysis including kinds of data, 	



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	descriptive statistics and interpreting graphs. Peer review and psychology and the economy.	