

Psychology at Norbury High

Key Stage 4

Overview

Students will study the science of human behaviour, focusing on key topics, themes, approaches, and research methods. The programme provides a framework for students to explore core ideas and concepts in psychology through the question “why does [a specific behaviour] occur?”

Students will consider the development of psychological explanations over time, covering different aspects of human behaviour, to better understand and apply this knowledge to any given topic or field. They will then go on to explore the issues and debates that arise as a result of studying psychology and why they are intrinsic to its study. Issues and debates include those such as nature vs nurture; psychology as science and the ethical aspects of conducting research. Students must understand how these underpin understanding and knowledge and the very important impact they have upon any future development of the subject. Throughout the course students will consider *how* we study the complexity of human behaviour through consideration of research methods and evaluate their use when considering the validity and reliability of evidence.

GCSE Psychology

Students will sit Edexcel GCSE 9-1 Psychology at the end of year 11. The GCSE courses provide pupils with access to a broad range of psychological knowledge through theory and studies. The topics are structured to build on knowledge gradually as this is an optional subject not necessarily studied by students at Key Stage 3.

Year 10

Topic 1 Cognitive and moral development

Topic 2 Memory and forgetting

Topic 3 Psychological problems: addictions and depression

Topic 4 The brain and neuropsychology

Topic 5 Social influence: obedience, conformity and bystander behaviour

(Research Methods studied throughout)

Year 11

Topic 5 Social influence: obedience, conformity and bystander behaviour

Topic 6 Criminal psychology

Topic 9 Sleep and dreaming

(Research Methods studied throughout)