

# Psychology at Norbury High

## Key Stage 5

This A level qualification offers an engaging and effective introduction to psychology which will appeal to a cross-section of students regardless of whether they have studied psychology before. Students will sit AQA A Level Psychology at the end of year 13 or an AS option if they finish at the end of year 12.

The course starts by looking at the nature and purpose of memory to provide a foundation for students to consider the scientific approach as this topic is studied through a cognitive approach to human behaviour. The topic of memory also informs students about how best to utilise their own memories in order to maximise their potential throughout their academic studies. The core topic of research methods is introduced early on and this can be applied to all other topics on the course. All the topics are broadly independent of each other however the stronger a student's understanding of each topic and area the more likely they are to develop a deeper appreciation of the subject and be able to consider issues more widely.

## Year 12

1. Memory and forgetting
2. Research methods AS
3. Attachment and its development
4. Social influence: obedience, majority and minority influence
5. Psychopathology: depression; OCD amongst others and treatments
6. Biopsychology: the nervous system; sleep and functioning areas of the brain
7. Approaches: biological, behavioural, social learning, cognitive, psychodynamic and humanistic approaches

## Year 13

1. Issue and debates: nature vs nurture: free will vs determinism; ethical issues
2. Research methods A2
3. Schizophrenia: symptoms, causes, treatments
4. Relationships: formation and dissolution
5. Aggression: types, causes and effects