



# PSYCHOLOGY

## Curriculum Intent

Psychology allows students to critically explore human mental processes and behaviour from a balanced multidisciplinary perspective as no single approach can explain the complexity of human behaviour. Students can then utilise their psychological understanding to be reflective about their own behaviour, cognition, and role in society. This encourages students to be more globally aware, open-minded, analytical thinkers, and principled in their actions.

## Curriculum Sequencing

Year 12	Enquiry Statement/Aim	Knowledge and Skills
<b>Term 1</b>	<p>What is Psychology? How do we study behaviour?</p> <p>What is the relationship between the brain and behaviour? (Paper 1 - Bio)</p> <p>How do the individual and the group affect each other? (Paper 1 - Soc)</p> <p>Embedded throughout: How is Psychological research used to examine behaviour and cognition? (IA preparation; Paper 3 - research methods, HL only)</p>	<p>Key terminology; knowledge and understanding; critical thinking; exam structure and requirements. Necessary as an introduction to the subject, course, and IB ethos. Engaging with course material to prepare for particular exam papers and developing examined skills - identifying the problem/issue/purpose of psychological investigation, describing and explaining psychological research, analysing and evaluating psychological research. Exploring opportunities and links with CAS, EE, and ToK for a complete IB experience and developing rounded global learners.</p> <p>Bio as most scientific and Soc as least scientific introduced together to demonstrate the diversity of psychological research and strategies for exploring behaviour.</p>
<b>Term 2</b>	<p>What are hormones and pheromones and what are their effects on behaviour? (Paper 1 - Bio)</p> <p>What are the cultural origins of behaviour and cognition? (Paper 1 - Soc)</p> <p>What are the cultural influences on individual behaviour? (Paper 1 - Soc)</p> <p>Embedded throughout: How is Psychological research used to examine behaviour and cognition? (IA preparation; Paper 3 - research methods, HL only)</p>	<p>Key terminology; knowledge and understanding; critical thinking; exam structure and requirements. Engaging with course material to prepare for particular exam papers and developing examined skills - identifying the problem/issue/purpose of psychological investigation, describing and explaining psychological research, analysing and evaluating psychological research. Exploring opportunities and links with CAS, EE, and ToK for a complete IB experience and developing rounded global learners.</p>

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<p><b>Term 3</b></p>	<p>What is the relationship between genetics and behaviour? (Paper 1 - Bio) What is the role of animal research in understanding human behaviour? (Paper 1 - Bio HL ext)</p> <p>What is the influence of globalisation on individual behaviour? (Paper 1 - Soc HL ext)</p> <p>How does human cognitive processing work? (Paper 1 - Cog)</p> <p>Embedded throughout: How is Psychological research used to examine behaviour and cognition? (IA preparation; Paper 3 - research methods, HL only)</p>	<p>Key terminology; knowledge and understanding; critical thinking; exam structure and requirements. Engaging with course material to prepare for particular exam papers and developing examined skills - identifying the problem/issue/purpose of psychological investigation, describing and explaining psychological research, analysing and evaluating psychological research. Exploring opportunities and links with CAS, EE, and ToK for a complete IB experience and developing rounded global learners.</p>
<p><b>Term 4</b></p>	<p>How reliable is cognitive processing? (Paper 1 - Cog) How does emotion influence cognition? (Paper 1 - Cog)</p> <p>Embedded throughout: How is Psychological research used to examine behaviour and cognition? (IA preparation; Paper 3 - research methods, HL only)</p>	<p>Key terminology; knowledge and understanding; critical thinking; exam structure and requirements. Engaging with course material to prepare for particular exam papers and developing examined skills - identifying the problem/issue/purpose of psychological investigation, describing and explaining psychological research, analysing and evaluating psychological research. Exploring opportunities and links with CAS, EE, and ToK for a complete IB experience and developing rounded global learners.</p>
<p><b>Term 5</b></p>	<p>How is cognitive processing affected in a modern digital world? (Paper 1 - Cog HL ext)</p> <p>How is Psychological research used to examine behaviour and cognition? (IA preparation; Paper 3 - research methods, HL only)</p>	<p>Key terminology; knowledge and understanding; critical thinking; exam structure and requirements. Engaging with course material to prepare for particular exam papers and developing examined skills - identifying the problem/issue/purpose of psychological investigation, describing and explaining psychological research, analysing and evaluating psychological research. Exploring opportunities and links with CAS, EE, and ToK for a complete IB experience and developing rounded global learners.</p>
<p><b>Term 6</b></p>	<p>How can we plan, conduct, analyse, and write up an experiment of memory processing? (IA)</p> <p>How is Psychological research used to examine behaviour and cognition? (Paper 3 - research methods, HL only)</p>	<p>Key terminology; knowledge and understanding; critical thinking; exam structure and requirements. Engaging with course material to prepare for particular exam papers and developing examined skills - identifying the problem/issue/purpose of psychological investigation, describing and explaining psychological research, analysing and evaluating psychological research. Exploring opportunities and links with CAS, EE, and ToK for a complete IB experience and developing rounded global learners.</p>



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SL students have 3 fewer lessons per fortnight; as such they progress through the Bio, Soc, and Cog material at a slower rate across all 6 terms and then commence the IA in Term 1 of year 13.

Year 13	Enquiry Statement/Aim	Knowledge and Skills
<b>Term 1</b>	<p>How can we plan, conduct, analyse, and write up an experiment of memory processing? (IA)</p> <p>How do personal relationships form, maintain, and end? (Paper 2 - Relationships)</p> <p>How does psychological research explore behaviour from a biological approach? (Paper 1 - Bio)</p> <p>Embedded throughout: How is Psychological research used to examine behaviour and cognition? (Paper 3 - research methods)</p>	<p>Key terminology; knowledge and understanding; critical thinking; exam structure and requirements. Engaging with course material to prepare for particular exam papers and developing examined skills - identifying the problem/issue/purpose of psychological investigation, describing and explaining psychological research, analysing and evaluating psychological research. Exploring opportunities and links with CAS, EE, and ToK for a complete IB experience and developing rounded global learners.</p> <p>Covid-related reduction in course content has led to opportunities to increase the amount of revision and ability to re-engage with psychological studies.</p>
<b>Term 2</b>	<p>How do personal relationships form, maintain, and end? (Paper 2 - Relationships)</p> <p>How do group dynamics explore cooperation and competition to explain and reduce discrimination and conflict? (Paper 2 - Relationships)</p> <p>How does psychological research explore behaviour from a cognitive approach? (Paper 1 - Cog)</p> <p>Embedded throughout: How is Psychological research used to examine behaviour and cognition? (Paper 3 - research methods)</p>	<p>Key terminology; knowledge and understanding; critical thinking; exam structure and requirements. Engaging with course material to prepare for particular exam papers and developing examined skills - identifying the problem/issue/purpose of psychological investigation, describing and explaining psychological research, analysing and evaluating psychological research. Exploring opportunities and links with CAS, EE, and ToK for a complete IB experience and developing rounded global learners.</p> <p>Covid-related reduction in course content has led to opportunities to increase the amount of revision and ability to re-engage with psychological studies.</p>
<b>Term 3</b>	<p>How do group dynamics explore cooperation and competition to explain and reduce discrimination and conflict? (Paper 2 - Relationships)</p> <p>How does psychological research explore behaviour</p>	<p>Key terminology; knowledge and understanding; critical thinking; exam structure and requirements. Engaging with course material to prepare for particular exam papers and developing examined skills - identifying the problem/issue/purpose of psychological investigation, describing and explaining psychological research, analysing and evaluating psychological research. Exploring opportunities and links with CAS,</p>

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	<p>from a sociocultural approach? (Paper 1 - Soc)</p> <p>Embedded throughout: How is Psychological research used to examine behaviour and cognition? (Paper 3 - research methods)</p>	<p>EE, and ToK for a complete IB experience and developing rounded global learners.</p> <p>Covid-related reduction in course content has led to opportunities to increase the amount of revision and ability to re-engage with psychological studies.</p>
<b>Term 4</b>	<p>How can we best prepare for the IB Psychology exams?</p>	<p>Key terminology; knowledge and understanding; critical thinking; exam structure and requirements. Engaging with course material to prepare for particular exam papers and developing examined skills - identifying the problem/issue/purpose of psychological investigation, describing and explaining psychological research, analysing and evaluating psychological research. Exploring opportunities and links with CAS, EE, and ToK for a complete IB experience and developing rounded global learners.</p> <p>Covid-related reduction in course content has led to opportunities to increase the amount of revision and ability to re-engage with psychological studies.</p>
<b>Term 5</b>		
<b>Term 6</b>		

SL students have 3 fewer lessons per fortnight; as such they commence and complete the IA in terms 1 and 2 of year 13. Covid-related reduction in course content, particularly for SL students who no longer sit paper 2; as such following completion of the IA, terms 3 and 4 are solely dedicated to revision of course content and preparation for exams.