

## Year 12

### Approaches in psychology

Emergence of psychology as a science, the behaviourist approach, the social learning theory, the cognitive approach & the biological approach.

### Biopsychology

The nervous system, neurons, synaptic transmission, the endocrine system & fight or flight.

### Psychopathology

Defining abnormality, explaining and treating OCD, depression and phobias.

### Social influence


Explaining conformity and obedience, resistance to social influence and how to create a successful social change.

### Memory

Models of memory, explaining forgetting, investigating factors that affect the accuracy of eyewitness testimony and how to improve it.

### Attachment

Explaining the development of attachment by looking at animal studies and applying this to human attachments whilst also explaining the impact of failing to form them.



Alongside all of these topics, students are taught about **research methods** in psychology (experiments, correlations, interviews, observations & questionnaires). They also cover how to handle data and draw conclusions from this.

Knowledge	Attributes / Character	Skills	Experiences
<p>Students will learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The key approaches in psychology that can be used to explain the development of human behaviour.</li> <li>How our biology influences behaviour within biopsychology.</li> <li>In psychopathology, they will learn how mental health conditions like OCD, phobias and depression develop and how best to treat these.</li> <li>In social influence, they will learn why people conform and obey within society, but also how people are able to resist social influence.</li> <li>In memory, they will learn about how memories are processed but also how factors affect the forgetting of information.</li> <li>In attachment, they will learn about how animal studies have been applied to understand the way that human attachments form whilst also explaining the impact of when these fail to form.</li> </ul> <p>Alongside these units, students will also be taught how research is conducted in psychology by looking into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How to design and conduct experiments</li> <li>How to design and conduct non-experimental methods like correlations, observations, interviews and questionnaires</li> <li>How to gather a representative sample of participants.</li> <li>Ethical considerations.</li> <li>Analysing and representing data.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Confidence:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students work together to design, carry out and present research to build confidence in their communication and team working skills.</li> <li>Students debate key issues in psychology to build confidence in sharing opinions in a sensitive manner.</li> <li>Students learn about behaviours they may not have come across before so they build their confidence in knowing how to approach different people in their future endeavours.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Organisation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students are set weekly homework tasks that require them to take an organised approach to their learning. Homework involves reviewing recent and old material so they build skills in organising their time across new and old material.</li> <li>Students are expected to bring their folders to every lesson to access learning.</li> <li>Students cover a large amount of material across the two year curriculum so they develop their ability to manage studying multiple topics at a time.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Resilience:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students learn about resisting the pressures faced within society that can be applied to remain resilient in everyday life.</li> <li>Students are not able to 'opt-out' in lessons. Students are active participants who are required to put maximum effort into every lesson and are encouraged to learn from any mistakes made.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Empathy:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students learn about how behaviours are often predetermined by factors out of our control, building empathy for those they may encounter in later life who face the difficulties they learn about and communicate with them with an ability to understand them.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Students will</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan, design and run effective research in Psychology. Here, students have to utilise their writing and oracy skills to justify decisions made and to interact with 'participants'.</li> <li>Critically analyse research by considering the appropriateness and effectiveness of the design and implementation.</li> <li>Application of each key approach in psychology to explain why people behave the way that they do.</li> <li>Compare different approaches for explaining behaviour in Psychology.</li> <li>Think critically about situations in society to understand and explain both verbally and in writing why they occur from a psychological perspective.</li> <li>Be self-motivated and organised to understand their own strengths/ areas for development and how to interleave topics throughout revision to support this.</li> <li>Writing and communication skills to discuss key issues and debates in both verbal discussions and extended writing.</li> </ol>	<p>Videos help students see how psychological research takes place and they hear directly from many famous researchers. For example, they view a therapist using systematic desensitisation with a client to eliminate a phobia. They also see Milgram and Zimbardo describe their research into conformity and obedience.</p> <p>Students also have many opportunities to design and conduct their own research whilst ensuring validity of procedures and ethical protection. They also take part in replication of key psychological studies covered in the curriculum to understand their own behaviour.</p> <p>Students have access to the Psychology Review magazine and the QR code library to read further around the subject.</p> <p>They are also present with real life examples of key behaviours studies to apply their learning to.</p> <p>Students will also be able to engage in various trips to help them apply their knowledge. For example, students sit in the galleries of court rooms to understand methods of dealing with offending behaviour.</p>