

Curriculum Overview: OCR GCSE Psychology

Psychology at Heathfield has an excellent position in the school. We are a KS4 subject with high numbers of students wishing to take the subject. We are a relatively new subject, yet year on year we average between 35-40% of the whole year cohort wishing to take our subject. Also, we get really good number of students wishing to take it on further for A-Level! We have engaged students with interesting topics and lessons looking at things from schizophrenia to the London Riots of 2011. We also enable students to build up a core of knowledge about everyday social phenomena. There is a balance of classic and modern psychological theory and research, emphasis on 'doing psychology', and a focus on mental health. We should be very proud of what we do, and what we support our students in learning.

Psychology is a linear qualification, students will sit all the GCSE exams at the end of their GCSE course. The core knowledge has been identified according to the OCR spec. The current scheme of learning is centered on Paper 1 and Paper 2 of the Psychology GCSE and are sequenced so that students study Paper 1 content in Year 10 and Paper 2 content in Year 11. This is to ensure consistency and clear separation for students come revision time. We have followed the OCR example of a SOW. Within each part of the curriculum, they are also taught Research Methods. We identified that instead of teaching it as a separate topic, why not get it included within the other topics as we can then make it more relevant and easier for students to understand. For example, instead of learning about 'lab experiments' as an separate idea, why not add it to the curriculum where they specifically look at a study (that they would need to know for GCSE) where it was conducted using lab experiments. I felt that this change ensures students are knowing more and remembering more of this core knowledge and skills, especially when it comes to recalling research methods.

Basic overview: OCR GCSE Psychology

	Year 10	Year 11
Autumn	Criminal Psychology	Research Methods
	Development	
Spring	Psychological Problems	Sleep and Dreaming
	Memory	
Summer	Social Influence	GCSE Revision time

Curriculum Overview: OCR GCSE Psychology						
Term / Length of Unit	Outline	Assessment	Home Learning	Resources	Knowledge/ skills end points	Reading/ Literacy
Overall GCSE covered over two Years	Overall this course enables students to focus on different topics which allows for a scientific and theoretical understanding of why people behave the way in which they do. They are also able to gain awareness of psychological issues and debates through active engagement with the different topics studied through evaluation, independent thinking and	Overall, the course offers a range of skills which will be assessed e.g. (AO1) will want you to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of psychological ideas, processes and procedures. (AO2) will measure how well you apply knowledge and understanding of psychological ideas, processes and procedures. (AO3) checks to see how well you analyse and	Writing task/DIY Research tasks/ revision and retrieval of content Exam practice and technique tasks – planning, constructing, reviewing exam questions. Quizlet sets to complete via computer/ mobile app	OCR textbooks Full schemes of learning with associated resources on Staff Resources – Psychology – OCR change. This can also be accessed via Microsoft TEAMS.	Overall the course will encourage students to: Develop essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of the subject and how they relate to each other via sequencing Develop and demonstrate a deep appreciation of the skills, knowledge and understanding of scientific methods	Recommended reading list via Heathfield school Psychology page Filling in missing word activities / charts i.e analysing the prevalence of mental health which do not always require lots of writing. Retrieval grids, bingo is used to recall information. Text book support and guidance from OCR

	completing DIY research projects as outlined in the homework policy.	evaluate psychological information, ideas, processes and procedures to make judgements and draw conclusions.				Key concept definitions Understanding of command words
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Curriculum Overview: OCR GCSE Psychology. Year 10

Term / Length of Unit	Outline	Assessment	Home Learning	Resources	Knowledge/ skills end points	Reading/ Literacy
Year 10 Autumn 1	<p>Introduction to Psychology lessons</p> <p>1. Criminal psychology - key concepts inc different types of crime, 2x theories of criminality, 2x studies of criminality, practical applications inc rehabilitation</p>	<p>Students complete small mark Questions within lessons.</p> <p>End of Topic and mid topic Assessments</p> <p>Homework marked including DIY Projects and Quizlet sets being completed.</p>	<p>Writing task/DIY Research tasks/ revision and retrieval of content</p> <p>Exam practice and technique tasks – planning, constructing, reviewing exam questions.</p> <p>Quizlet sets to complete via computer/ mobile app</p>	<p>OCR textbooks</p> <p>PPT's for each lesson developed by class teacher – Stored on Microsoft TEAMS page and via Staff Resources.</p>	<p>Knowing the difference between a theory and research</p> <p>Introduction to effective evaluation of research studies and theories using exam structure</p> <p>Writing short answer exam questions</p>	<p>Key concept definitions</p> <p>Understanding of command words</p> <p>Further reading: Psychology Review Magazine and current articles</p> <p>Independent reading tasks</p> <p>Text book support and guidance OCR</p>

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Term / Length of Unit	Outline	Assessment	Home Learning	Resources	Knowledge/ skills end points	Reading/ Literacy
Year 10 Autumn 2	2. Developmental psychology - stages of development, Piaget's Theory of cognitive development, learning theories of development inc Dweck & Willingham, practical applications of Piaget's research to education	<p>Students complete small mark Questions within lessons.</p> <p>End of Topic and mid topic Assessments</p> <p>Homework marked including DIY Projects and Quizlet sets being completed.</p>	<p>Writing task/DIY Research tasks/ revision and retrieval of content</p> <p>Exam practice and technique tasks – planning, constructing, reviewing exam questions.</p> <p>Quizlet sets to complete via computer/ mobile app</p>	<p>OCR textbooks</p> <p>PPT's for each lesson developed by class teacher – Stored on Microsoft TEAMS page and via Staff Resources.</p>	<p>Describing theories and studies</p> <p>Application to human behaviour</p> <p>Knowing how to effectively evaluate</p>	<p>Key concept definitions</p> <p>Understanding of command words</p> <p>Further reading: Psychology Review Magazine and current articles</p> <p>Independent reading tasks</p> <p>Text book support and guidance OCR</p>

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Year 10 Spring 1	3. Psychological problems - defining mental health, prevalence rates, stigma of mental health, biological and psychological theories of schizophrenia, treatments for schizophrenia	<p>Students complete small mark Questions within lessons.</p> <p>End of Topic and mid topic Assessments</p> <p>Homework marked including DIY Projects and Quizlet sets being completed.</p>	<p>Writing task/DIY Research tasks/ revision and retrieval of content</p> <p>Exam practice and technique tasks – planning, constructing, reviewing exam questions.</p> <p>Quizlet sets to complete via computer/ mobile app</p>	<p>OCR textbooks</p> <p>PPT's for each lesson developed by class teacher – Stored on Microsoft TEAMS page and via Staff Resources.</p>	<p>Describing theories and studies</p> <p>Application to human behaviour</p> <p>Analysing appropriateness and effectiveness of psychological treatments</p>	<p>Key concept definitions</p> <p>Understanding of command words</p> <p>Further reading: Psychology Review Magazine and current articles</p> <p>Independent reading tasks</p> <p>Text book support and guidance OCR</p>

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Year 10 Spring 2	4. Memory - information processing, types of forgetting, multi-store model of memory, theory of Reconstructive Memory, techniques used for memory recall.	<p>Students complete small mark Questions within lessons.</p> <p>End of Topic and mid topic Assessments</p> <p>Homework marked including DIY Projects and Quizlet sets being completed.</p>	<p>Writing task/DIY Research tasks/ revision and retrieval of content</p> <p>Exam practice and technique tasks – planning, constructing, reviewing exam questions.</p> <p>Quizlet sets to complete via computer/ mobile app</p>	<p>OCR textbooks</p> <p>PPT's for each lesson developed by class teacher – Stored on Microsoft TEAMS page and via Staff Resources.</p>	<p>Describing theories and studies</p> <p>Application to human behaviour</p> <p>Analysing appropriateness and effectiveness of psychological treatments</p>	<p>Key concept definitions</p> <p>Understanding of command words</p> <p>Further reading: Psychology Review Magazine and current articles</p> <p>Independent reading tasks</p> <p>Text book support and guidance OCR</p>

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Year 10 Summer 1 and 2	5. Social influence - key concepts of conformity, crowd behaviour, obedience, explanations of social influence - situational & dispositional, Bickman's research, NatCen study into London riots, minority influence & social change	<p>Students complete small mark Questions within lessons.</p> <p>End of Topic and mid topic Assessments</p> <p>Homework marked including DIY Projects and Quizlet sets being completed.</p>	<p>Writing task/DIY Research tasks/ revision and retrieval of content</p> <p>Exam practice and technique tasks – planning, constructing, reviewing exam questions.</p> <p>Quizlet sets to complete via computer/ mobile app</p>	<p>OCR textbooks</p> <p>PPT's for each lesson developed by class teacher – Stored on Microsoft TEAMS page and via Staff Resources.</p>	<p>Effective studying</p> <p>Describing theories and studies</p> <p>Application to human behaviour</p> <p>Knowing how to effectively evaluate</p> <p>Synoptic exam question - making connections between different elements of the subject</p>	<p>Key concept definitions</p> <p>Understanding of command words</p> <p>Further reading: Psychology Review Magazine and current articles</p> <p>Independent reading tasks</p> <p>Text book support and guidance OCR</p>

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Term / Length of Unit	Outline	Assessment	Home Learning	Resources	Knowledge/ skills end points	Reading/ Literacy
Year 11 Autumn 1 and 2	6. Research methods - continuation of content not taught in year 10 - types of data, tables / charts/ graphs, sources of bias	<p>Students complete small mark Questions within lessons.</p> <p>End of Topic and mid topic Assessments</p> <p>Homework marked including DIY Projects and Quizlet sets being completed.</p>	<p>Writing task/DIY Research tasks/ revision and retrieval of content</p> <p>Exam practice and technique tasks – planning, constructing, reviewing exam questions.</p> <p>Quizlet sets to complete via computer/ mobile app</p>	<p>OCR textbooks</p> <p>PPT's for each lesson developed by class teacher – Stored on Microsoft TEAMS page and via Staff Resources.</p>	<p>Applying research methods knowledge to other topics within the Psychology GCSE</p>	<p>Key concept definitions</p> <p>Understanding of command words</p> <p>Further reading: Psychology Review Magazine and current articles</p> <p>Independent reading tasks</p> <p>Text book support and guidance OCR</p>

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Year 11 Spring 1 and 2	7. Sleep & dreaming - functions, features and benefits of sleep, causes of sleep disorders, Freudian Theory of Dreaming, Research Study – Freud (1918): dream analysis study of ‘The Wolfman’, Activation Synthesis Theory of Dreaming: Features of insomnia	<p>Students complete small mark Questions within lessons.</p> <p>End of Topic and mid topic Assessments</p> <p>Homework marked including DIY Projects and Quizlet sets being completed.</p>	<p>Writing task/DIY Research tasks/ revision and retrieval of content</p> <p>Exam practice and technique tasks – planning, constructing, reviewing exam questions.</p> <p>Quizlet sets to complete via computer/ mobile app</p>	<p>OCR textbooks</p> <p>PPT’s for each lesson developed by class teacher – Stored on Microsoft TEAMS page and via Staff Resources.</p>	<p>Describing theories and studies</p> <p>Application to human behaviour</p> <p>Knowing how to effectively evaluate Synoptic exam question - making connections between different elements of the subject</p>	<p>Key concept definitions</p> <p>Understanding of command words</p> <p>Further reading: Psychology Review Magazine and current articles</p> <p>Independent reading tasks</p> <p>Text book support and guidance OCR</p>

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Term / Length of Unit	Outline	Assessment	Home Learning	Resources	Knowledge/ skills end points	Reading/ Literacy
Year 11 Summer 1 towards end of GCSE	Revision for GCSE exams Practicing answering / producing exemplar answers to 8 and 13 mark synoptic exam questions	<p>Students complete small mark Questions within lessons.</p> <p>End of Topic and mid topic Assessments</p> <p>Homework marked including DIY Projects and Quizlet sets being completed.</p>	<p>Writing task/DIY Research tasks/ revision and retrieval of content</p> <p>Exam practice and technique tasks – planning, constructing, reviewing exam questions.</p> <p>Quizlet sets to complete via computer/ mobile app</p>	<p>OCR textbooks</p> <p>PPT's for each lesson developed by class teacher – Stored on Microsoft TEAMS page and via Staff Resources.</p>	<p>Revision skills</p> <p>Developing evaluation skills through use of counter-arguments.</p> <p>Synoptic exam question - making connections between different elements of the subject</p>	<p>Key concept definitions</p> <p>Understanding of command words</p> <p>Further reading: Psychology Review Magazine and current articles</p> <p>Independent reading tasks</p> <p>Text book support and guidance OCR</p>

