



Sociology Curriculum

Intent

Psychology is a subject with huge significance in modern and contemporary society. Discourse around mental health is changing, allowing young people to engage more with what mental health is, how to maintain it and how to deal with social issues that are cause and consequence of variations in individual experience.

Learning about Psychology can lead to a wide range of opportunities and careers both directly in the field and outside of it. Psychology is applied to sectors including health, education, social services, environmental protection, sport and business.

Students who study Psychology will

- Develop understanding of human behaviour that enables empathy and compassion for people with different experiences, whether these experiences relate to health, environment, culture or social interactions
- Develop the ability to be self-reflective about behaviours and attitudes, knowing how the body and mind work together to produce behaviours
- Develop critical thinking skills that enable objective and thorough research

Implementation

At Chosen Hill Sixth Form, students study the AQA Psychology A Level specification. This specification has been selected due to the balance of breadth and depth; students will study across different areas of Psychology with the opportunity to study some aspects more closely. This specification also develops students' core skills as it has mathematical, written and scientific components.

Classroom teaching is enhanced with opportunities for students to carry out some practical investigation. This means that students will work with each other to test hypotheses at several points throughout the course, including a visit to Bristol Zoo Education Centre for a workshop on behavioural observation. Homework and Directed Study work will be set to enable both consolidation and preparation for lessons. In addition, materials are made available for Self-Directed Study to ensure that students are well equipped to carry out effective independent study.

Assessment

This A Level is 100% exam; there are three papers. Each paper is equally weighted and is comprised of a combination of essay questions, short answer questions and mathematical questions.

Throughout the year, students will be set essays during the teaching of each topic and will sit an end of topic test to ensure that they are prepared for the shorter questions. These tests are proportionate to the weighting of each topic in the final exams.

