

Key Stage 5	
Examination Board and Syllabus	
A – Level Psychology (AQA A)	
Year 12	
	Topics covered
<b>Autumn Term</b>	<p>Memory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Multistore Model</li> <li>- Long Term Memory</li> <li>- Working Memory</li> <li>- Explanations of forgetting</li> <li>- Factors affecting the reliability of eyewitness testimony</li> <li>- Improving the accuracy of eyewitness testimony</li> </ul> <p>Attachment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Caregiver-infant interactions in humans</li> <li>- Animal studies of attachment</li> <li>- Explanations of attachment (learning theory and Bowlby's theory)</li> <li>- Ainsworth's Strange Situation</li> <li>- Cultural variations in attachment</li> </ul> <p>Approaches in Psychology including Biopsychology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Learning approaches</li> <li>- The cognitive approach</li> <li>- The biological approach</li> <li>- The psychodynamic approach</li> <li>- Humanistic psychology</li> </ul>
<b>Spring Term</b>	<p>Psychopathology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Definitions of abnormality</li> <li>- Phobias, depression and obsessive-compulsive disorders</li> <li>- Behavioural, cognitive and biological explanations</li> <li>- Behavioural, cognitive and biological treatments</li> </ul> <p>Social Influence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Types of conformity</li> <li>- Social roles</li> <li>- Explanations for obedience</li> <li>- Explanations of resistance to social change</li> <li>- Minority influence</li> <li>- Social change</li> </ul> <p>Research Methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Experimental Method</li> <li>- Observational techniques</li> <li>- Self-report techniques</li> <li>- Correlations</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Scientific processes</li> <li>- Data handling and analysis</li> </ul>
<b>Summer Term</b>	AS examination series / Begin Year 13 studies
<b>Year 13</b>	
	<b>Topics covered</b>
<b>Autumn Term</b>	<p>Biopsychology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The divisions of the nervous system</li> <li>- The functions of the endocrine system</li> <li>- Localisation and hemispheric lateralisation</li> <li>- Plasticity and recovery after trauma</li> <li>- Ways of studying the brain</li> <li>- Biological rhythms</li> </ul> <p>Schizophrenia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Classification of schizophrenia</li> <li>- Biological explanations of schizophrenia</li> <li>- Psychological explanations of schizophrenia</li> <li>- Drug therapy</li> <li>- Cognitive behaviour therapy and family therapy</li> <li>- Interactionist approach; the diathesis-stress model</li> </ul> <p>Issues &amp; Debates in Psychology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Gender and culture in Psychology</li> <li>- Free will and determinism</li> <li>- The nature-nurture debate</li> <li>- Holism and reductionism</li> <li>- Idiographic and nomothetic approaches to investigation</li> <li>- Ethical implications</li> </ul>
<b>Spring Term</b>	<p>Gender</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sex and gender</li> <li>- Cognitive explanations of gender development</li> <li>- Psychodynamic explanations</li> <li>- Social Learning Theory explanations</li> <li>- Atypical gender development</li> </ul> <p>Aggression</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Neural and hormonal mechanisms in aggression</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The ethological explanation of aggression</li><li>- Social psychological explanations of aggression</li><li>- Institutional aggression</li><li>- Media influences on aggression</li></ul> <p>Research Methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Inferential testing</li><li>- Probability and significance</li><li>- Factors affecting choice of statistical test</li></ul>
<b>Summer Term</b>	Preparation for examinations