



Curriculum intent: GCSE and A Level Psychology will give pupils a broad understanding of how the human mind influences behaviour. Pupils will be able to apply their knowledge and skills in their everyday lives.

Curriculum rationale: We have chosen this sequence of knowledge and skills because it allows pupils to learn threshold concepts such as research methods and evaluation key terms early on in the course so they can apply this to studies and theories learnt in other topics. The order also helps pupils to build their knowledge of scientific concepts such as the brain. For example, in Year 10 pupils will learn about neurons and synaptic transmission. This knowledge will be built upon when studying Psychological problems in Year 11 as pupils will have to explain biological explanations and treatments of depression. In Year 12 pupils will continue to build upon this knowledge by learning about other explanations of depression and further treatments. In Year 13 pupils will then relate Issues and Debates such as reductionism and holism back to their previous learning of depression.

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
10	Research methods and Memory	Research methods and Memory	Social influence	Development	Perception	Brain and Neuropsychology
11	Brain and Neuropsychology	Psychological problems	Psychological problems and Language, thought and development	Language, thought and development	Revision and retention of difficult concepts	
12	Approaches and Research methods	Approaches and Research methods	Social influence and Memory	Social influence and Memory	Attachment and Psychopathology	Attachment and Psychopathology
13	Issues and debates and Biopsychology	Issues and debates and Biopsychology	Forensic psychology and Schizophrenia	Gender	Revision and retention of difficult concepts	