

Social Sciences Psychology Curriculum Statement

“The purpose of the social sciences is to equip them with the ability to challenge, become critical thinkers through developing awareness and understanding of the wider world in which they live”.

The fundamental vision of Psychology at Key Stage 5 is to develop interest and to provide students with a range of skills which will extend beyond the Sixth Form. Psychology aims to provide an inclusive education where students can identify and explore questions in the different psychological topic areas. We encourage students to reflect on personal and social issues. The Psychology Department comprises of very experienced practitioners.

The Psychology curriculum encourages academic writing at A Level and the use of scholarly sources in and out of lessons to equip students with the skills needed to excel at the next stage of their education or career.

To ensure coherence and inclusivity our curriculum, Psychology aims to promote and reflect students’ diverse social and cultural backgrounds. The topic areas of social influence, memory, attachment, and psychopathology encourage issues that students can relate to. On Paper two, psychological approaches, research methods and bio- psychology can bring their personal knowledge and experience into the classroom. The topics of aggression, relationships and schizophrenia provide the opportunity of student engagement in discussions and activities that challenge their personal viewpoints, help them shape their identity and explore their role in the multi-cultural and ever-changing world we live in.

The Psychology team offer a diverse range of activities that enables effective learning to take place. Our regular Faculty Student Voice reflection and feedback provide opportunities to support our students further.

A key aim of Psychology is to develop student capabilities, knowledge and understanding within our subject so they can challenge, critique, and improve the social world they live in. Lessons are designed to encourage and promote inclusiveness, to ensure students develop a world view from a variety of ideological perspective. It is our aim to have students leave our school, having developed curiosity and a thirst for knowledge about social issues and strategies to overcome them. The Psychology department hope that the variety of resources, skills and environments offered to students will lead to depth and confidence to challenge existing psychological issues and current affairs. We also have a strong focus on psychological knowledge of concepts and the ability of students using them correctly under examination conditions.



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The Psychological topics chosen at Key Stage 5 enable personalisation and differentiation for different undergraduate fields of study. Our Psychological curriculum is delivered across various mediums from face-to-face learning and digital platforms. All our lessons follow an agreed structure with Do Now tasks being completed at the beginning of each lesson to facilitate retrieval and consolidation of learning. The Psychology department scaffold and model extended pieces of writing at Key Stage 4 and 5 to support our students in tackling the examination board success criteria. The team promote the climate for learning criteria to help students take control of their education. This offers the chance to praise and build good working relationships with our students enabling, positive work ethos that offers success into their adult life and ensuring all students have equal access to opportunities and participation. Through using a variety of teaching methods, it allows for inclusivity; providing equal opportunity for our students to achieve their personal academic goals.

Narrative is a key avenue for engagement in Psychology, bringing real world experiences to the context of the classroom helps to maintain engagement and promote academic rigour. Psychology is a work in progress, constantly evolving with the constraints of global and political news. Students are provided with the opportunity for flipped learning. This pedagogical model offers strengthening learning and independent discovery opportunities.

To help prepare and inspire our students for adult life socially and emotionally, we support them with the tools to become better balanced individuals in all areas and aspects of their lives. We support the school to mark important anniversaries and provide students with a more holistic view of important dates such as Holocaust Memorial Day, Black History Month and Remembrance Day. Trips are important through offering students an enriched "Stantonbury Experience". As a faculty we are passionate about bringing the curriculum to life through a range of different experiences including various guest speakers, Social Sciences trip to London overseas residential trips to Washington DC and Poland.

