



Subject	Psychology
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“The purpose of psychology is to give us a completely different idea of the things we know best.”

Paul Valery

Curriculum Intent

Psychology forces you to question yourself and others. Questions that don't always have an answer but questions which will make you search and discover the explanations for. Psychologists observe and conduct experiments to find out more about the way people act and interact. In trying to understand interactions we are forced to look at our own lives and other people's too... It is relevant, exciting and an adventure which can open your eyes to new ideas and concepts on why people behave and think the way they do. Psychology is one of the most interesting and dynamic fields in the world currently. In part due to the growing awareness of mental health issues.

Powerful knowledge in Psychology

The purpose of our Psychology curriculum is to inspire pupils in the understanding of the human mind and behaviour. Lessons are designed to encourage students to work collaboratively and think independently. Students will learn about key psychological approaches across history and look for current applications to society. By encouraging a culture of curiosity, discussion and debate are key features of our lessons. We develop skills in data analysis, allowing students to interpret information collected as part of studies as well as conducting their own research.

Studying Psychology allows students to develop the knowledge, skills and attributes to become confident, responsible and considerate citizens. The curriculum contains content that allows for the development of compassion and empathy for others and to challenge stigma and discrimination surrounding mental health issues and neurodiversity.

Curriculum Features

Our GCSE Psychology curriculum is sequenced in line with the AQA GCSE course and includes:

- Memory
- Perception
- Development
- Research Methods
- Social Influence
- Language, Thought and Communication
- Brain and Neuropsychology
- Psychological Problems

Each topic features a number of key, influential studies and theories which students will need to describe, apply and evaluate. The course allows for students to develop a greater understanding of self and society, providing useful insight into memory and motivation and suggesting explanations for how human behaviour can change in different contexts.



Curriculum Enrichment

At Breckland School we enhance the experience of GCSE Psychology by offering a variety of ways in which students can extend their understanding. This includes extra reading opportunities and documentaries to help students expand their horizons.