



## A Level Psychology @Perschore High School

### **Intent:**

The AQA Psychology curriculum at Perschore High School is ambitious and challenging and is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the study of the human mind and behaviour. The department is committed to developing psychologists of the future, providing all students with the knowledge and cultural capital they need to succeed in life beyond KS5. Our curriculum will ensure that students will enjoy challenge and will show thought and resilience when faced with application questions. The curriculum aims to develop critical thinking, analytical skills, and knowledge of research methods. Our curriculum empowers students to have a greater appreciation and awareness of Psychology related issues in the world around them. We want to develop accomplished readers, writers and orators who have the skills to critically and confidently engage with the world around them. The aim is to prepare students for higher education and life beyond Sixth Form, but more importantly, it is to foster a lifelong love of the subject.

### **Implementation:**

The AQA Psychology curriculum at A Level is planned and sequenced ensuring that topics are revisited with opportunities for interleaving and spaced practice. Lesson's focus on the development of key skills of analysis and evaluation, through discussion and evaluation of research evidence and theory. Psychological and scientific research methods are embedded in every lesson and students learn how to design and conduct experimental research using a range of different approaches. They also become proficient in analysing and interpreting a wide range of data sources, quantitative and qualitative. Course content is delivered through classroom investigations, peer and group discussions, practical experiments and extended writing. Regular assessments take place allowing for all students to reflect on progress and performance and to set more challenging goals. Students will have the opportunity to explore a range of topics including social influence, memory, attachment, psychopathology, schizophrenia, and forensic psychology. To encourage a passion for the subject and an understanding of where psychology fits into society we provide many opportunities to explore the subject outside the classroom, from attending phobia workshops, to interviewing ex-offenders.

### **Impact:**

The AQA Psychology curriculum at A Level aims to have a positive impact on students' academic and personal development. We want our students to talk and think like psychologists. They will be scientifically literate and will be able to articulate their knowledge and thinking in many ways. They will also be more able to assess the credibility of different sources of information whether it be from websites of online personalities. Our students will be curious and will understand how psychological theory is relates to real life and the wider world. They will be outstanding scientists who are able to formulate hypotheses and gather data objectively to avoid subjective and biased conclusions. Student voice, recruitment, retention and destinations are important measures of impact at A Level alongside the consistently strong results achieved by our students in both internal and external assessments.