



Psychology Department Curriculum Statement

Vision

The Psychology Department seeks to provide learners with the knowledge and skills needed to become educated citizens of the future. The students are encouraged to recognise the importance of Psychology in society and how they can apply their knowledge to a range of complex issues. There is a clear focus on skills such as how to carry out research and how to present a balanced argument. These are important skills that they can take forward for future learning and employment.

Our curriculum in Psychology supports the ethos of the school. Students are constantly challenged to work collaboratively and think independently in lessons. Lesson materials are engaging to promote discussion and encourage students to develop an enquiring mind.

As a knowledge based curriculum, we believe that knowledge underpins and enables the application of skills. Content is delivered and built upon through practice questions, with regular feedback supporting student progress. Our students are introduced to a variety of viewpoints from some of the most influential Psychologists throughout history. We study the impact that their work has had on society and encourage students to make links between what they have learned in class and real-life.

Action

The Psychology teachers use a consistent approach to deliver high quality lessons where students are given the tools required to learn and retain information. We use a variety of resources and teaching strategies to ensure that students have a thorough knowledge of the specification and are capable of going beyond what is taught in lessons. Techniques to help develop long-term memory are embedded in the curriculum to aid mastery of subject content.

The key concepts of Research Methods and Issues and Debates are integrated into all lessons to allow students to embed new concepts into existing knowledge. Students are encouraged to incorporate subject specific terminology into their writing through the use of key word lists for every topic.

Session 3 is used to support the students in their learning and encourages them to become more independent. Regular assessment is used to inform teaching and to make interventions where needed. Students are given personalised feedback to allow them to take responsibility for their own learning and gives teachers the opportunity to review and adapt teaching approaches.

The online curriculum and digital book allow the students to access departmental resources both in lessons and remotely.

Impact

Outcomes within the Psychology department at Thomas Telford School are consistently exceptional, with many students surpassing their expected grades. The popularity of Psychology courses in the Sixth Form is evident, with an average of 100 students enrolled each year. This strong uptake reflects the subject's appeal and the department's reputation for excellence.

A significant number of our students go on to pursue higher education in Psychology and related fields, underscoring the robust foundation our program provides. The quality of teaching and learning in Psychology has been praised through both internal and external lesson observations, as well as through comprehensive literacy and marking reviews.



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QUALITY THROUGH COOPERATION

Most importantly, our students express a high level of enjoyment and engagement with the subject. They consistently commend the quality of teaching, the accessibility of resources, and the depth of knowledge and study skills they acquire from the department. This positive feedback highlights the impact of our dedicated approach to delivering an outstanding Psychology education at Thomas Telford School

Subject contact

Head of Health and Social Care and Psychology, Ms Claire Nock - cnock@ttsonline.net