



Psychology at Littleover Community School

Psychology investigates the causes of human behaviour, looking at what causes us to think, feel and act in the way we do. At LCS, theories and research are regularly applied to real life, to encourage our students to gain a deeper understanding of how our behaviour is shaped. We also look at *how* research has been carried out so students can evaluate the quality of the evidence.

Our teaching is informed by psychological understanding about how students learn, using flipped learning, low-stakes quizzing, spaced retrieval, a spiral curriculum and high-quality feedback.

Our aim is for students to leave Year 13 with an understanding of the way a person's behaviour is shaped and the implications of this for the real world.

	Autumn	Spring		Summer		
YEAR 12 PAS	Topic – Social influence and research methods (embedded) SUBSTANTIVE KNOWLEDGE - Conformity, Obedience, Minority influence, Observations, Correlations, Self-report methods, Ethics, Implications in the economy PROCEDURAL KNOWLEDGE Describe, evaluate, apply SKILLS –Answer short exam questions and 8 mark essay, plan essay, make and organise notes, PET, Assessment – Discuss the authoritarian explanation as an explanation for obedience (8) plus 8 marks short questions (inc RM), Yr 12 exam RM in Social Influence H/W <i>Careers – link in lesson to jobs linked to behaviour change</i>	Topic – Attachment and research methods (embedded) SUBSTANTIVE KNOWLEDGE - Features and types of attachment, Cultural variations, Explanations of attachment, Disruption of attachment, Implications in the economy PROCEDURAL KNOWLEDGE Describe, evaluate, apply SKILLS – Apply RM, Answer 8 mark applied essays, PET, organise notes, analyse questions, highlight/annotate text Assessment – 8 mark applied essay plus 8 marks short questions (inc RM) Yr 13 mock RM in Attachment (in lessons)		Topic – Biopsychology SUBSTANTIVE KNOWLEDGE - Nervous system/endocrine system/neurons, PROCEDURAL KNOWLEDGE Describe, evaluate, apply SKILLS – applying biological concepts to psychology Assessment –Short Qs (Yr 12 exams Wk 27/8)	Topic – Schizophrenia SUBSTANTIVE KNOWLEDGE - Diagnosis, Biological causes and therapies, Psychological causes and therapies, Interactionist approaches PROCEDURAL KNOWLEDGE Describe, evaluate, apply SKILLS – Answer 16 mark essays (inc applied), develop PET with I&D/research, make and organise effective notes, analyse questions Assessment – 16 marks short questions including RM (Also in mock)	
	Topic – Approaches and research methods (embedded) SUBSTANTIVE KNOWLEDGE - Behaviourism, Cognitive, Biological, Psychodynamic, Humanistic, Experimental method inc aim/hypothesis, Demand characteristics, investigator effect, Experimental designs, nature of science PROCEDURAL KNOWLEDGE Describe, evaluate, apply,	Topic – Memory SUBSTANTIVE KNOWLEDGE - Coding, capacity and duration, MSM, Types of long-term memory, Working model of memory, Explanations of forgetting: Interference/ Retrieval failure, Eye witness testimony: Leading questions/ Anxiety, Cognitive interview Types of experiment, Descriptive stats, maths, graphs,		Topic – Clinical psychology SUBSTANTIVE KNOWLEDGE - Definitions in the field of MH, Phobias, Depression, OCD, Peer review, Implications in the economy, PROCEDURAL KNOWLEDGE Describe, evaluate, apply,		Topic – Research methods project SUBSTANTIVE KNOWLEDGE - Validity, reliability, reporting psychological research and designing a study PROCEDURAL KNOWLEDGE Design, report, evaluate, describe, review SKILLS – design, report and review a research project

	SKILLS– Answer short exam questions and 8 mark essay, plan essay, make and organise notes, PET, compare approaches Assessment – 16 marks short questions inc RM Q, Yr 12 exam RM in approaches, <i>Careers - Optional MH workshop</i>	distribution, Sampling, Pilot studies, Content analysis, Case studies PROCEDURAL KNOWLEDGE Describe, evaluate, apply, SKILLS– Answer short exam questions and 16 mark essay, plan essay, make and organise notes, PET, Assessment – 16 mark applied essay (choice from 2 WMM or forgetting), Year 12 exam RM in memory	SKILLS– Answer short exam questions and 16 mark essay, plan essay, make and organise notes, PET, Assessment – Short Qs RM in clinical psychology (Yr 12 exams Wk 27/8)	Assessment – Short answer questions, Research report assessed <i>Careers – I’m a psychologist! Interactive sessions (June)</i>	
YEAR 13 PAS	Topic – Biopsychology SUBSTANTIVE KNOWLEDGE - The brain and how to measure it, plasticity and functional recovery PROCEDURAL KNOWLEDGE Describe, evaluate, apply SKILLS— analyse questions, PET with counterarguments/I&D etc, use narrative in essays Assessment –Short Qs	Topic – Review of Yr 12 work SUBSTANTIVE KNOWLEDGE - Social influence, Biopsychology, Attachment, Research methods, PROCEDURAL KNOWLEDGE Describe, evaluate, apply SKILLS– revision techniques, exam skills, independent learning, Assessment – informal (leading to mock and final exam)	Topic – Issues and debates SUBSTANTIVE KNOWLEDGE - Culture and gender bias, Nature/nurture, Free will/determinism, Holism/reductionism debates, Idiographic/nomothetic approaches, Ethical implications PROCEDURAL KNOWLEDGE Describe, evaluate, apply SKILLS– use I&D in PET, link essay/PET structure, consistently write answers to time Assessment – 16 mark essay	Topic – Inferential statistics (+3 revision) SUBSTANTIVE KNOWLEDGE - Significance, errors, data, inferential tests PROCEDURAL KNOWLEDGE Describe, evaluate, apply SKILLS– select a test, explain significance Assessment – exam questions (informal)	A Level Exams
YEAR 13 PHW	Topic – Forensic Psychology SUBSTANTIVE KNOWLEDGE - Offender profiling, Biological explanations, Psychological explanations, Dealing with offending behaviours PROCEDURAL KNOWLEDGE Describe, evaluate, apply SKILLS– Compare and contrast, link essay/PET structure, consistently write answers to time Assessment – Essay (choice for teacher) Year 13 exam	Topic – Review SUBSTANTIVE KNOWLEDGE - Approaches, memory, psychopathology, research methods PROCEDURAL KNOWLEDGE Describe, evaluate, apply SKILLS– revision techniques, exam skills, independent learning, Assessment – informal (leading to mock and final exam)	Topic – Cognition and Development SUBSTANTIVE KNOWLEDGE - Piaget, Vygotsky, Baillargeon, Selman, mirror neurons PROCEDURAL KNOWLEDGE Describe, evaluate, apply SKILLS– Compare and contrast, link essay/PET structure, consistently write answers to time Assessment – last year’s QP on this section (some peer marking)	Topic – Revision SUBSTANTIVE KNOWLEDGE - Review of subject knowledge PROCEDURAL KNOWLEDGE Describe, evaluate, apply SKILLS– Answering exam questions Assessment – informal	A Level Exams

	Careers - Satchel homework				
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Notes:

Careers links:

Link to job (behavioural change) – Yr 12 Nov

~~I'm a psychologist get me out of here – Yr 12 June – not running in 2026~~

Forensic Psychologist – Y13 Oct (Satchel H/W) , also external speaker June 2026 via psychology club

~~External speaker for mental health workshop Yr 13 – date? not running in 2026 (PHW link), external speaker Sept/Oct 2026 (CEM)~~

Year 12 mock

Approaches, social influence and RM (two sections)

Year 13 mock

Forensic, schizophrenia, psychopathology and attachment (research methods questions included)

Not assessed in a mock – Yr 13 RM, I&D, Cog&Dev, Bio