

Psychology Department Information

Psychology is one of the most popular A Level subjects at The Thomas Hardy School with roughly 175 students across the year 12 and 13 cohorts. The psychology department would be made up of the successful candidate and one other enthusiastic and friendly, full-time teacher.

We currently deliver the AQA specification, and our students only sit external examinations at the end of Year 13. Both teachers will teach across all 7 psychology classes, dividing the 9 fortnightly lessons between them. We have a wide range of resources for all lessons, assessments and independent learning activities all of which are shared across the team and provided on Microsoft Teams and Class Charts for students to access. We have also developed booklets for each topic to guide lesson notes and provide activities and exam practise. Students are assessed on each topic throughout the course in addition to sixth form wide progress tests and mock examinations including full past papers. We use these results, along with monitoring attendance, engagement in class and independent study to identify any cause for concerns and communicate efficiently with the sixth form team and parents to best support students. At certain points in the academic year, we hold catchup and revision sessions to further assist our students in succeeding in the subject.

The topic areas are as follows:

Year 12

The Approaches
Research Methods
Social Influence
Biopsychology
Attachment
Memory
Issues & Debates

Year 13

Psychopathology
Research Methods
Schizophrenia
Addiction
Cognition & Development

As a faculty area we share an office with other social science subjects including law, sociology, business & economics as well as an admin assistant.

The department has designated subject teaching rooms, two ICT rooms and laptops available for booking. Each room has a projector, and every teacher has a laptop to make use of the school network and interactive white boards. Wireless internet access is available throughout the department.