KS5 Curriculum Map – Psychology: AQA

Topic	Knowledge *Substantive knowledge*: This is the specific, factual content for the topic, which should be connected into a careful sequence of learning.	Skills *Disciplinary knowledge*: This is the action taken within a particular topic in order to gain substantive knowledge.	Assessment Opportunities What assessments will be used to measure student progress?
Approaches	• Students should know the key assumptions of each major Psychological Approach & strengths and weaknesses of each approach including seminal research in each approach. • Students should also know how these fit into the context of some key debates in psychology.	• Students should be able to… • Write effective descriptions of each approach. • Compare and contrast each approach. • Evaluate the contribution of each approach to understanding human behaviour.	• Multiple choice tests • Timed essay assessments • Essay questions • Questioning • Peer Assessment • Stem scenarios • Practical Assignments • Data handling • End of Topic Test
Social Influence	• Students should know key research into Social Roles (Socio) & Conformity, Obedience and Minority Influence. Students should also know the strengths and weaknesses of this research.	Students should be able to… • Write effective descriptions of each key study using research methods terminology. • Discuss conflicting explanations for social influence. • Apply psychological explanations to novel and real world examples of social influence. • - Recognise the role of SLT and the Psychodynamic approach in obediance	• Multiple choice tests • Timed essay assessments • Essay questions • Questioning • Peer Assessment • Stem scenarios • Practical Assignments • Data handling • End of Topic Test

Memory	• Students should know the features of and research supporting the Multi-Store Model, The Working Memory Model and Types of Long Term memory, the features of and research supporting theories of forgetting and factors affecting eye witness testimony.	• Students should be able to… • Write an effective description of each key study using research methods terminology. • Label and explain diagrams of both the MSM & WMM. • Apply limitations of the cognitive approach to models of memory. • Distinguish between 3 types of LTM • Discuss and Evaluate research into models of memory. • Distinguish between different types of forgetting. • Analyse the extent to which different factors influence EWT. • Evaluate research into factors affecting EWT including anxiety and repression.	• Multiple choice tests • Timed essay assessments • Essay questions • Questioning • Peer Assessment • Stem scenarios • Practical Assignments • Data handling • End of Topic Test
Attachment	• . Students should know key research and theories about reciprocity, interactional synchronicity, the stages of attachment and animal studies of attachment 2 explanations of attachment and how they relate to the approaches. They should also know how attachment types have been studied in various cultures and the effects of not forming an attachment.	• Students should be able to… • Write an effective description of each key study using research methods terminology. • Describe the processes involved in forming an attachment. • Describe and Evaluate 2 animal studies of attachment • Apply the psychodynamic, biological and behaviourist approaches to attachment formation. • Critique of research into attachment types that considers cultural bias. • Discuss the effects of failure to form attachment	• Multiple choice tests • Timed essay assessments • Essay questions • Questioning • Peer Assessment • Stem scenarios • Practical Assignments • Data handling • End of Topic Test
Psychopathology	• Students should know the 4 different definitions of abnormality and their strengths and weaknesses. The characteristics, explanations and treatments for Depression, OCD and Phobias.	• Students should be able to… • Describe the purpose and limitations of each definition of abnormality. • Apply each definition of abnormality to novel behaviours. • Discuss the usefulness of each definition in reference to context. • Apply each condition to an approach in	• Multiple choice tests • Timed essay assessments • Essay questions • Questioning • Peer Assessment • Stem scenarios • Practical Assignments

		psychology. • Recognise and distinguish between the cognitive, emotional and behavioural symptoms of each condition.	• Data handling • End of Topic Test
Research Methods	• Students should know the main processes involved in selecting and designing an experiment, observation, self-report, correlation, content analysis and case study. • the ways in which validity, reliability, ethics, control and sampling can be improved within research methodology • the definitions, advantages and disadvantages of descriptive statistics including levels of data, measures of central tendency, measures of dispersion and various graphic displays. • Students should know the key features of the scientific process as applied to research within Psychology. • the requirements to choose an appropriate statistical test. They should also know when to select and the processes of how to carry out spearman's rho, chi squared, Mann Whitney U test, Wilcoxon and related and unrelated t-tests	• Students should be able to… • Label biological diagrams and explain the processes they convey. • Explain the impact of biological systems on human behaviour. • Assess the extent to which we are determined by biology. • Select an appropriate method for a given research aim. • Evaluate the use of certain research methods in the context of studies covered in memory, approaches and social influence. • Select appropriate strategies for improving a piece of research. • Evaluate the use of certain strategies used to improve research in the context of studies covered in memory, approaches, attachment, psychopathology and social influence. • Calculate the mean, median, mode and range for a given set of statistics. • interpret the significance of these descriptive statistics and standard deviation in regards to human behaviour. • Select and interpret an appropriate graphical displays based on the level of data presented. • Explain the purpose of and calculate a sign test. • Identify e.gs within psychological research that demonstrate that it is / is not a science • Discuss the nature of Psychology as a science based on the examples given. • Select an appropriate statistical test and	• Practice questions (including Multiple choice tests • Timed essay assessments • Essay questions • Questioning • Peer Assessment • Stem scenarios • Practical Assignments • Data handling • End of Topic Test

		justify their choice. • Use a critical values table to interpret the results of an inferential statistical test.	
Biopsychology	Students should know • research into the basic biological processes that govern human behaviour including the Nervous & Endocrine system, the role of neurons and neurotransmitters in synaptic transmission(the fight or flight response. • The parts of the brain and the areas of human behavior they are responsible for governing. • Research into Neural Plasticity and functional recovery, • Ways of measuring the brain • The influence of Biological Rhythms.	Students should be able to… - Label biological diagrams and explain the processes they convey. - Explain the impact of biological systems on human behaviour. Assess the extent to which we are determined by biology.	• Practice questions Multiple choice tests • Timed essay assessments • Essay questions • Questioning • Peer Assessment • Stem scenarios • Practical Assignments • Data handling • End of Topic Test
Aggression	• Students should know theories and research surrounding different explanations for aggression including biological, evolutionary and social explanations.	Students should be able to… • Give multiple reasons for the cause of aggressive behaviour. • Evaluate each explanation. • Be able to apply these explanations to the context of institutional aggression in prisons.	• Multiple choice tests • Timed essay assessments • Essay questions • Questioning • Peer Assessment • Stem scenarios • Practical Assignments • Data handling • End of Topic Test
Stress	• Students should know the biological and psychological process which govern the stress response. They should also know 3 sources of stress and ways of managing and coping with stress.	Students should be able to… • Describe the biological processes involved in the stress response. • Assess the impact of the work place, life changes and daily hassles on levels of stress. • Justify appropriate strategies for dealing with stress in the context of individual need.	• Multiple choice tests • Timed essay assessments • Essay questions • Questioning • Peer Assessment • Stem scenarios • Practical Assignments • Data handling

Gender	• Students should know theories and research surrounding different explanations for gender including biological, cognitive, psychodynamic and social explanations. They should also know the effects Atypical Gender Development	Students should be able to… • Discuss the concept of gender as a psychological construct. • Assess various explanations for the development of gender. • Evaluate explanations for gender dysphoria using psychological research.	• Multiple choice tests • Timed essay assessments • Essay questions • Questioning • Peer Assessment • Stem scenarios • Practical Assignments • Data handling • End of Topic Test
Issues & Debates	Students should know research into the key concepts surrounding…. • the nature vs. nurture debate. • The free will vs. determinism (Politics) debate. • The Holism vs. Reductionism debate • The Idiographic vs. Nomothetic approach • Gender Bias • Culture Bias • Ethical Implications	Students should be able to… • Discuss the extent to which psychology has addressed each debate. • Use the debates to formulate “Double Whoppers” (Argument/Counter) within other topics. • Discuss the extent to which psychology has addressed each issue. • Use the issues to formulate “Double Whoppers” (Argument/Counter) within other topics.	• Multiple choice tests • Timed essay assessments • Essay questions • Questioning • Peer Assessment • Stem scenarios • Practical Assignments • Data handling • End of Topic Test