

GCSE Psychology: Curriculum Map



YEAR 10



DEVELOPMENT

- Learn about the key parts of the brain (forebrain, midbrain, hindbrain, cerebellum, and medulla) and how they develop.
- Explore Piaget's four stages of cognitive development: sensorimotor, pre-operational, concrete operational, and formal operational.
- Understand Carol Dweck's mindset theory and Daniel Willingham's learning theory, focusing on effort, practice, and strategies for learning.
- Study Piaget's Three Mountains Task and Gunderson's research on how parent praise affects learning and development.
- Learn about the stages of moral development and how thinking skills influence moral decisions.

MEMORY

- Understand how memory works, including encoding, storage, and retrieval.
- Learn about the Multi-Store Model and Bartlett's Theory of Reconstructive Memory.
- Discover the differences between retrograde and anterograde amnesia and their symptoms.
- Explore key studies on memory, such as Bartlett's *War of the Ghosts* and Peterson & Peterson's short-term memory experiment.
- Examine the debate between reductionism and holism in psychology and how memory theories fit into this discussion.

Start of Psychology GCSE- Year 10

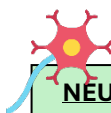
Wait! Before we move into Year 11, we complete a whole **Paper 1 mock exam** based on these 5 topics!

YEAR 11



SOCIAL INFLUENCE

- Study key ideas like obedience, conformity, deindividuation, and the bystander effect, and learn what factors influence these behaviours.
- Learn about group behaviour, including how crowds can act in positive (pro-social) or negative (anti-social) ways.
- Review famous studies like Piliavin's *Good Samaritanism* and Zimbardo's *Stanford Prison Experiment*.
- Discuss how social and cultural factors affect behaviour and psychology.



NEUROPSYCHOLOGY

- Study the different parts of the brain (frontal, occipital, parietal, and temporal lobes) and how each side of the brain has different functions (lateralisation).
- Learn about neurotransmitters, how synapses work, and the central nervous system.
- Understand how brain damage can affect behaviour and thinking, such as in conditions like visual agnosia and prosopagnosia.
- Review studies like Damasio's work on Phineas Gage and Sperry's research on brain lateralisation.



PSYCHOLOGICAL PROBLEMS

- Learn about depression and addiction, their symptoms, causes (genetic, cognitive, and learning theories), and treatments like CBT and medication.
- Study key research, such as Caspi's work on depression and Young's study on internet addiction.
- Explore the nature vs. nurture debate and how it applies to mental health issues.



CRIMINAL PSYCHOLOGY

- Learn about theories explaining criminal behaviour, including operant conditioning, social learning theory, and biological explanations like Eysenck's personality theory.
- Study how different punishments (e.g., prison, community service) affect repeat offences (recidivism).
- Explore treatments to reduce criminal behaviour, such as token economy programs and anger management.
- Review studies like Bandura's *Transmission of Aggression* and Charlton's research on how TV violence affects children's behaviour.

During Year 11, you get another two attempts at mock exams. This is two tries at **Paper 1** and two tries at **Paper 2**. Lucky you!

SLEEP AND DREAMING

- Learn why sleep and dreaming are important.
- Study the stages of sleep, including REM, and how biological rhythms control sleep.
- Understand sleep disorders like insomnia and narcolepsy, including their symptoms and causes.
- Explore dream theories, including Freud's theory and the Activation-Synthesis Theory.
- Review studies like Freud's *Little Hans* study and Siffre's cave experiment on sleep cycles.



RESEARCH METHODS

- Learn how to identify variables, write hypotheses, and understand different research methods, including experiments and sampling techniques.
- Understand why it's important for research to be reliable (consistent) and valid (measuring what it's supposed to).
- Study ethical issues in psychology, such as informed consent, confidentiality, and the right to withdraw from research.

GCSE Exams- Year 11