

## **KS4 Statement of Intent – Psychology**

**“Out of your vulnerabilities will come your strength”** – Sigmund Freud

Studying psychology enables students to have a well-rounded understanding of human behaviour. Students develop their independent learning skills and are also trained to question ideas and not just accept them. Psychology facilitates *Living together in faith, dignity and hope* by allowing us to have a better understanding of human nature, and, where appropriate, considering where dignity and hope needs to be offered in support, based on the individuals we care for and the society we live in.

Students engage with the five main psychology disciplines: cognitive psychology, social psychology, behavioural psychology; abnormal psychology; developmental psychology. Research methods are embedded across the course. By the end of their school career students will have a broad and deep understanding of the reasons behind human behaviour.

The curriculum aims to offer an inclusive learning experience in which no student is left behind in terms of barriers to learning. Scaffolding of new learning takes place with the use of writing frames and audio and visual resources: extensive modelling is practised by all teachers to ensure SEND students are accessing information. These students also benefit through more manageable, stepped, portions of information and the use of low-stakes testing and retrieval exercises to raise confidence, as well as memory and consolidation activities for homework.

### **Year 10**

#### **Substantive knowledge**

Students study development, the memory, psychological issues and neuropsychology.

#### **Disciplinary knowledge**

These topics are investigated using a variety of qualitative and quantitative techniques and research methods.

### **Year 11**

#### **Substantive knowledge**

Students study criminal psychology, the self, perception, sleep and dreaming, and language and communication

#### **Disciplinary knowledge**

These topics are investigated using a variety of qualitative and quantitative techniques and research methods.