

## Psychology

At KS4 in Psychology we follow the AQA GCSE specification. This qualification gives the students an understanding of the fundamentals of psychology, developing critical analysis, independent thinking and research skills.

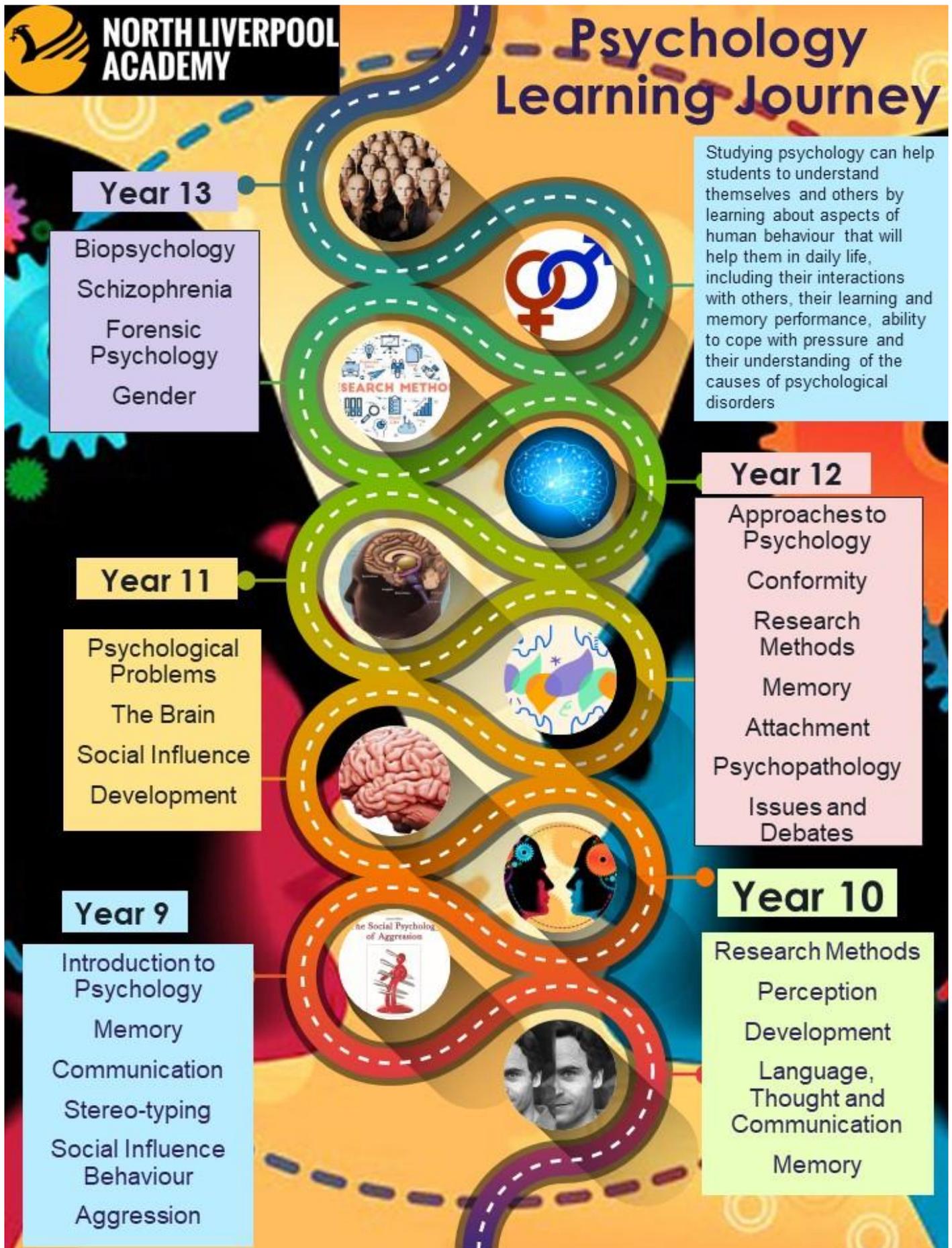


We are often baffled by the behaviour of others. Why politicians lie, why people betray friendships or cheat on their partners, or why some experience acute anxiety or depression while others are seemingly immune from the ravages of mental health issues. Studying psychology can help students to understand themselves and others by learning about aspects of human behaviour that will help them in daily life, including their interactions with others, their learning and memory performance, ability to cope with pressure and their understanding of the causes of psychological disorders

Psychology is one of the most interesting and dynamic fields in the world currently. In part due to the growing awareness of mental health issues. This engaging and effective qualification introduces students to the fundamentals of psychology, developing critical analysis, independent thinking and research skills.



Our Learning Journey shows how our topics build upon each other and our students experience a wide variety of themes in order to broaden their learning experience:



Our curriculum at KS4 is as follows:

<b>Year 10</b>
<b>Cognition and Behaviour</b> Research Methods Perception Development Language, Thought and Communication Memory
<b>Year 11</b>
<b>Social Context and Behaviour</b> Psychological Problems The Brain Social Influence Development

Our curriculum encourages students to:

- use specialist vocabulary, psychological concepts, terminology and convention to engage in the process of psychological enquiry
- acquire knowledge and understanding of psychology, developing an understanding of self and others, and how psychological understanding can help to explain everyday social phenomena
- understand how psychological research is conducted, including the role of scientific method and data analysis
- present information, develop arguments and draw conclusions through a critical approach to psychological evidence, developing as reflective thinkers
- develop an understanding of the relationship between psychology and personal, moral, social and cultural issues, and develop an understanding of ethical issues in psychology
- develop an understanding of psychological issues, the contribution of psychology to individual, social and cultural diversity, and how psychology contributes to society.

## **Learning through Experiences in Psychology**

In order to enhance the provision of Psychology beyond the curriculum, our students benefit from the following experiences:

- Class debates on the merits of psychological approaches
- Analysis of mock crime scenes for forensic psychology
- Reproductions of ecologically valid experiments
- Remotely observed psychological experiments
- Peer reviewed class presentations