



Intent	Delivery	Impact
<p>Vision</p> <p>The Psychology Curriculum at St Mark’s Catholic School is designed to support every student in fulfilling their God given potential. It essentially offers an engaging and effective introduction to Psychology through a holistic programme of study. It provides students with a clear, up-to-date and stimulating specification which reflects advances and changes in the subject and ensures that our students experience an interesting, diverse and coherent course of study, evident through the topics chosen.</p> <p>We only teach KS5 Psychology at St Mark’s Catholic school. Our Key Stage 5 Curriculum is designed to: (1) embrace excellence in all that we do... whether this be in our lessons, our feedback, our professional relationships or in our results.(2) give students the opportunity to develop skills valued by Higher Education and employers (3) foster a passion for psychology in our students through exposing them to a range of challenging theories and research evidence. (5)support students in their ability to effectively communicate through writing and through articulate speech, and to ensure all students have the ‘cultural capital’ to navigate the world when they leave our St Mark’s community.</p> <p>In short, the psychology department’s intent is to nurture well rounded students so they can grow into community -spirited, adventurous, inquisitive and interesting young people as they embark on their next adventure.</p>	<p>The department is able to choose our own content for three out of the four topics for paper 3. We have ensured that all 3 are attractive topic options for A-level students. They have been chosen to enable us to teach to our strengths and at the same time ensure that students experience an interesting, diverse and coherent course of study, regardless of whether they have studied the subject before.</p> <p>See topic areas and sequencing of these on Curriculum map.</p> <p>Assessments are regularly completed in year 12 and 13 lessons in exam conditions. They are marked and recorded on a shared document for department transparency in order to inform intervention and recognise patterns in individual progression. IPMs and exam results inform intervention groups. Oracy skills are encouraged every lesson, where opportunities to improve and finesse skills are provided. These may be in retrieval starter tasks, key discussions, plenary tasks or even teaching each other opportunities. ‘PP first’ is a mantra of the department where bursary students are prioritised in marking, planning and resources. This is the same for SEND students, for example adjusting resources and lessons for individual needs.</p> <p>Students are provided with time to reflect on feedback and prioritise targets in order to progress. Throughout Careers week in year 12, lessons are dedicated to careers associated with the subject which are timed to inform university choices.</p>	<p>The Psychology Dept has very good outcomes at KS5 and there is a large uptake of A Level Psychology. 2025 summer results:</p> <p>i) The department’s target is to improve top end results further. Last summer our A*-A improved: We increased from the 40% A*-A in 2024 to 48.1% in 2025. The Aug 2025 results TOP END increase trend continued as the A*-B improved also to 77.8% (2) An ALPS 4 was achieved in the 2025 results.</p> <p>The department assesses the feedback from AQA where changes are made if certain questions, topics, papers need addressing that year. This could be done through the sequencing or the changing of how lessons are taught. For example, we have changed the order / sequencing of research methods in the past in light of results and we have built in exam questions where AO2 skills are used into every lesson.(again in light of AQA feedback)</p> <p>Many of our students go on to study psychology at university as the course does provide them with a strong foundation for the subject at degree level.</p>