

– Outline Programme of Study

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
Big Ideas/ topics	Issues & Debates Biopsychology	Gender	Stress	Aggression	Research methods Revision	
Key Knowledge	Gender and culture in Psychology Free will and determinism Nature-nurture debate Holism and reductionism Idiographic and nomothetic approaches to psychological investigation Ethical implications of research studies and theory Localisation of function in the brain and hemispheric lateralisation Plasticity and functional recovery of the brain after trauma Ways of studying the brain Biological rhythms	Sex and gender Role of chromosomes and hormones in sex and gender Cognitive explanations of gender development Psychodynamic explanation of gender development Social learning theory as applied to gender development Gender dysphoria	Physiology of stress Role of stress in illness Sources of stress: life changes, daily hassles, workplace stress Measuring stress: self-report scales and physiological measures Individual differences in stress: personality Biological treatments Gender differences in coping with stress The role of social support in coping with stress	Neural and hormonal mechanisms in aggression Ethological explanation of aggression Evolutionary explanations of human aggression Social psychological explanations of human aggression Institutional aggression in the context of prisons Media influences on aggression	Reliability & validity Features of science Reporting psychological investigations Levels of measurement Content analysis and coding. Thematic analysis. Probability and significance Factors affecting the choice of statistical test	

Further information and reading list

Exam board

AQA A Level Psychology

Textbooks

- AQA Psychology for A Level Year 2 Student Book- Cara Flanagan, Matt Jarvis & Rob Liddle (known as the pink haired girl book)
- CGP AS and A-Level Psychology: AQA Complete Revision
- CGP A Level Psychology: Essential Maths Skills

Websites

- <https://www.tutor2u.net/psychology>
- <https://www.youtube.com/c/PsychBoost?app=desktop>
- https://www.youtube.com/@tutor2u-official/playlists?view=50&sort=dd&shelf_id=6
- <https://simplypsychology.org/resources/a-level-psychology>



- Psychology Review
- The Psychologist

Ways to support and extend student learning in this subject

- Documentaries as directed by your teacher & uploaded onto Google Classroom
- Reading up to date journal articles (found in S2)
- Stay up to date with scientific and medical news (e.g. mental health, social policies etc)
- Use the AQA specification & past papers to test knowledge-
<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/psychology/as-and-a-level/psychology-7181-7182/specification-at-a-glance>