



GREENWOOD ACADEMIES TRUST



Psychology Intent document

Pupils leave a GAT Academy with the academic qualifications & wider skills, characteristics & experiences, which will assist them to lead successful & happy lives

Our Academy Curriculum Principles:



Our curriculum is engineered to ensure pupils are equipped with the qualifications, knowledge, experiences and skills to succeed in life and progress onto meaningful employment with training or further and higher education.

To achieve this our curriculum is designed to be:

- **Broad, ambitious and grounded in the national curriculum** – so that all groups of pupils have access to both academic and vocational programmes of study where challenge, achievement and progress are expected for all.
- **Knowledge rich** – so that all pupils acquire the core knowledge to which they are entitled and the powerful knowledge they need to expand beyond their own experiences
- **Intelligently planned** – sequenced to incrementally build long-term knowledge and develop cross-curricula schema, using evidence-based strategies to maximise learning.
- **Culturally rich** – broadening horizons and exposing pupils to the vast wealth of experiences in the wider global society be that the arts, music, sport and extra-curricular pursuits
- **Character building** – providing opportunities to develop leadership, organisation, resilience, initiative and communication skills from year 7 to 13
- **Context-specific** – so that pupils who are not yet secondary ready, or not yet confident in the English language can rapidly catch up and access the full curriculum, and those with limited opportunities to explore the world beyond Northampton can broaden their horizons.
- **Values-driven** – to develop principled young people who respect others in all their diversity, put kindness at the heart of all their decisions and strive to achieve excellence in all that they do.
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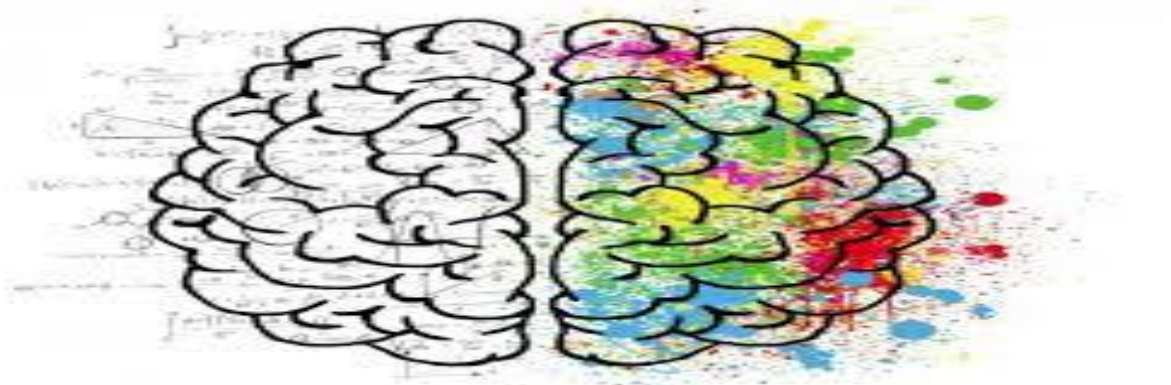


Our academy values are *kindness, respect and excellence*

Our Psychology Intent:

Our faculty intent is comprised of following 3 sections:

1. Our vision for the subject/faculty and the purpose it serves for our pupils
2. Defining what the key concepts and core domains of knowledge are, that pupils will learn about
3. The end points our curriculum is working towards



1. Our vision

Psychology is the study of human behaviour. The intent for the Psychology curriculum to ensure that learners are equipped with the necessary scientific knowledge, skills and vocabulary and they develop a better understanding of the wider world through the acquisition of powerful knowledge. We aim to develop a broad and ambitious curriculum, that not only allows our students to develop the knowledge needed for their exams at GCSE and A level, but also develops a lifelong enquiry and understanding about the world around them.

We also incrementally build knowledge and builds links with other subjects to help pupils build schema and commit knowledge to long-term memory i.e., the link between the Health and Fitness sports psychology module and arousal and motivation as well as the structure and function of the nervous system, which links to biology topics in science.

The curriculum will enable our learners to:

- value the importance of Psychological studies and research and promote curiosity of the human body and mind
- Enable students to learn more about why a person behaves the way that they do.
- Generate a deeper understanding of people and society, in terms of human behaviour and mental processes.
- Develop a better understanding of how people think, act and feel.
- As social scientists we aim to encourage students to question everything and to be able to critically evaluate theories and methods of investigation, theories and beliefs about human behaviour
- Develop students' knowledge and understanding of and Challenge pupils to think critically and evaluate social norms and concepts, both within their own community and in the wider global community

- Expand pupil's knowledge on how we develop both physically, but also the development of our thoughts, morals and values.
- Allow Pupil's to develop into independent thinkers and learners to develop their own character and communication skills
- provide opportunities to develop and challenge their leadership, organisation, resilience, initiative and communication skills
- To give students the opportunity to see psychology in action and experience life outside of their local area through zoo trips (attachment studies) and visits to psychology conferences at universities to provide other culturally rich experiences to broaden students' horizons and understanding of the world around them

2. Our key concepts and core domains of knowledge

Psychology

Key stage 4/5

- Biological – an understanding of biological concepts in psychology, including neuroscience and genetics as contributors to behaviour.
- Cognitive – an understanding of thought, information and mental processing as contributors to behaviour.
- Social – an understanding of the social area of psychology, the impact of social and environmental factors on behaviour and the influence of groups.
- Developmental – an understanding of how individuals change throughout their lives, with a particular focus on childhood and how both nature and nurture can affect individuals.
- Individual differences – an understanding of the complex nature of human behaviour and experiences and why and how people are different.
- Debates in psychology, including 'reductionism/holism' and 'nature/nurture'.
- how psychological knowledge and ideas change over time and how they inform our understanding of behaviour
- The contribution of psychology to an understanding of individual, social and cultural diversity
- Research methods - understand how psychological research is conducted, including the role of scientific method and data analysis

3. The end points of our curriculum

Psychology

- 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.

- Achieve at least a standard pass in their chosen discipline and to achieve at least a C if they choose to continue their studies with us at ks5. This is an ambitious goal, but we will strive for all students to be able to achieve this.
- The knowledge and skills to be able to continue their studies in further education or to be able to apply and use in their future careers.