

Psychology

Qualifications

Exam board: AQA 7182 QAN:6014838X

Two year A Level course to be assessed by external examination at the end of Year 13.

Entry Requirements

A minimum of 5 passes at grade 5 or grade C (including English and Maths).

Skills Required

Psychology is often defined as the scientific study of the mind and behaviour. Psychology is a science and students will study psychological research and scientific methods together with analysing and exploring the human mind and how it affects behaviour. An analytical and evaluative mind is an essential skill together with mathematical ability in order to grasp statistical techniques. You will also need to enjoy reading and writing essays and have the ability to examine different theories and the reasoning behind them.

Course Outline

At AS Level you will sit two exam papers.

Paper 1 - Introductory Topics, will focus on three topic areas: social influence, memory and attachment. You will examine psychological theories and research to develop your understanding of these topics.

Paper 2 - Psychology in Context will focus on how psychology can be applied to everyday life. As well as studying research methods and psychological approaches, you will also examine psychopathology by investigating depression, OCD and phobias.

The full A Level will examine in more detail those topics studied at AS, as well as examining a range of new topics such as eating behaviour, relationships and forensic psychology. You will sit three exam papers for A Level Psychology.

Student Testimony

"It has made me look at the world differently; I now understand why people react to situations in different ways. It has a little bit of everything; literacy, Mathematics and science, and really makes you think!"

Career Paths & Degree Courses

Psychology provides a useful foundation for any degree course. This subject is also relevant for any job that requires interpersonal skills such as teaching, nursing, health care professions, social work, clinical psychology, educational psychology and law. Psychology combines well with sociology, biology, physical education and health and social care.

Topics & Examination papers

Paper 1: Introductory topics in psychology

- Social Influence
- Memory
- Attachments
- Psychopathology

Written exam: 2 hours 96 marks in total 33.3% of A-level

Paper 2: Psychology in context

- Approaches in psychology
- Biopsychology
- Research Methods

Written exam: 2 hours 96 marks in total 33.3% of A-level

Paper 3 Issues & options in psychology

- Issues & Debates in psychology
- Relationships
- Schizophrenia
- Forensic psychology

Written exam: 2 hours 96 marks in total 33.3% of A-level