

# PSYCHOLOGY

## Course

A level Psychology

## Exam Board

AQA

## Entry requirements

At least three GCSEs above level 5 including GCSE Maths, English & Biology. GCSE Psychology is not essential.

## Why study Psychology?

Psychology is one of the most popular A levels nationally and allows students to explore how human behaviour both shapes and is shaped by the mind. It explores how the way we think is influenced both by the internal body/ brain environment and by the social, familial and cultural conditions we are subject to. Technically, Psychology is a study of the mind and is classified as one of the sciences. It affords the student the opportunity to investigate the fascinating hidden world of the mind and try to understand the multiple variations of behaviours that human beings display and to investigate some of the most influential thinkers of the modern era.

## Course content

The course is made up of the following modules:

### Compulsory content

1. Social influence
2. Memory
3. Attachment
4. Psychopathology
5. Approaches in Psychology
6. Biopsychology
7. Research methods
8. Issues and debates in Psychology

### Optional

**Option 1** chosen from:

9. Relationships
10. Gender
11. Cognition and development

**Option 2** chosen from:

12. Schizophrenia
13. Eating behaviour
14. Stress

**Option 3** chosen from:

15. Aggression
16. Forensic Psychology
17. Addiction

## Assessment

### Paper 1

- Compulsory content 1- 4 above
- Written exam: 2 hours: 96 marks in total
- 33.3% of A level

### Paper 2

- Compulsory content 5-7 above
- Written exam: 2 hours: 96 marks in total
- 33.3% of A level

### Paper 3

- Compulsory content 8 above plus optional content, one from Option 1, one from Option 2, one from Option 3
- Written exam: 2 hours: 96 marks in total
- 33.3% of A level

## Progression after Sixth Form

Psychology offers students the opportunity to gain a very highly respected academic A level that can contribute to UCAS applications for a variety of university courses, or to pursuing a dedicated Psychology degree course, which all the top universities offer.

## Career opportunities

Qualifications in Psychology, both at A level and degree level can help students access careers such as law, teaching, medicine, nursing, psychotherapy, child psychotherapy, social work, counselling, lecturing, the police force, broadcasting and a whole host of careers that involve working with people.

**For more information contact Head of Department:**

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