

A Level Psychology

Examination Board: AQA

Contact Teacher: Mr Chick



Course Details and Assessment

Psychology is the science of the mind and behaviour. The A level course looks to teach students about the history of psychology and its major approaches as well as giving them a chance to engage in some of the topic areas of interest, such as memory, social influence, psychopathology and forensic psychology.

The course is 100% examination and covers a wide range of content over the 2 year A Level course.

The course will cover the following topic areas:

AS Course	Full A Level
<p>Paper 1</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Memory- features of memory, models of memory and eye witness testimony. 2. Social Influence – conformity, obedience, minority influence and social change. 3. Attachments – types of attachments, cross cultural studies on attachments, effects of deprivation and institutionalisation, effects of attachment on later life. <p>Paper 2</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Psychopathology – defining abnormality, phobias, depression, OCD, perspectives explanations and treatments. 2. Approaches to Psychology – Behaviourism, SLT, Cognitive and Biological. 3. Biopsychology – Genetics, localisation of brain function, researching the brain, brain plasticity and biological rhythms. 4. Research Methods – experimental and non-experimental methods, ethics and statistics. 	<p>Paper 1</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Memory 2. Social Influence 3. Attachments 4. Psychopathology <p>Paper 2</p> <p>Approaches to – Behaviourism, SLT, Cognitive, Psychodynamic, humanistic and Biological.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Biopsychology – Genetics, localisation of brain function, researching the brain, brain plasticity and biological rhythms. 6. Research Methods – experimental and non-experimental methods, ethics and statistics. <p>Paper 3</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Issues and Debates in Psychology – nature V nurture, free will V determinism, culture and gender bias, idiographic V nomothetic and ethical implications. 8. Relationships – evolutionary explanations of attraction, theories of relationship formation and breakdown, parasocial relationships and virtual relationships. 9. Schizophrenia – classification, diagnosis, explanations and treatments 10. Forensic Psychology – explanations of crime, offender profiling and dealing with offending behaviour.

Career/Higher Education	Entry Requirements
<p>Psychology is highly regarded by many universities for its development of skills and the insight given to human behaviour. Due to its scientific focus, it is seen by many universities and courses as an acceptable science A Level. This is an excellent grounding for a range of Social Science degrees, careers in Health Care and Education.</p>	<p>Grade 5 in English Language and Maths, also a Grade 5 in Science and a Grade 5 in a Humanities subject at GCSE.</p>

“We are what we are because we have been what we’ve been, and what is needed is for solving problems of human life is not moral estimates but more knowledge.”

Sigmund Freud