

Examination Board

AQA

Specific Course Requirements

B grades in Double Science and a Level 5 in English Language and English Literature. A Level 6 in Mathematics is highly recommended.

Course Content

The course will help students develop an awareness and understanding of psychological theories and research and the process through which information on human behaviour is gathered to inform those theories.

In their first year, students will explore different areas of Psychology including memory, the importance of infant attachment in developmental psychology, the power of social influence and an introduction to individual differences: abnormality.

In each area, the impact that psychology has had on everyday life will be explored. For all topics, an underlying understanding of research methods and techniques in Psychology will be necessary in order to critically evaluate the evidence supporting theories, models and explanations.

In their second year, students will have the opportunity of developing their existing knowledge and understanding by applying them to socially relevant topics using the issues and debates relevant to psychological research. The topics studied will include understanding human relationships, the biopsychology of human behaviour and explanations and theories of aggressive behaviour.

In addition, Psychopathology is a central topic of interest and research methods are dealt with in more detail, allowing students to develop their knowledge of how Psychologists conduct investigations. Students will also have the opportunity to develop their evaluative and analytical skills by exploring key issues and debates in Psychology.

How will I be assessed?

All assessment is by externally examined written papers.

There are three papers (2 hours each) at the end of the second year to obtain an 'A' Level qualification. What could I do with a qualification in this subject?

Psychology is a popular degree subject at university. The 'A' Level is an academically respected qualification and is a valuable foundation for those interested in pursuing Higher Education courses and/or careers in Social Sciences, Nursing, Advertising or Human Resources.

The two most commonly asked questions about this course are:

What will I be studying?

See the above information.

Will I be able to tell what people are thinking?

No, that is a common misconception.

Sixth Form			
YG	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Y12	<p>Paper 1: Social Influence, Memory.</p> <p>Paper 2: Approaches in Psychology, Research Methods.</p>	<p>Paper 1: Attachment, Memory.</p> <p>Paper 2: Research Methods, Psychopathology.</p>	<p>Revision of AS Paper 1 and Paper 2</p> <p>A Level Research Methods, A Level Approaches, Debates in Psychology.</p>
Y13	<p>Paper 2: Research Methods, Biopsychology.</p> <p>Paper 3: Issues and Debates in Psychology, Relationships, Schizophrenia</p>	<p>Paper 2: Biopsychology.</p> <p>Paper 3: Schizophrenia, Aggression</p>	<p>Revision of Year 1 topics and Research Methods.</p>