

A-LEVEL / AQA / 2 YEARS

PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology is the scientific study of the human mind and behaviour: how we think, feel, act and interact individually and in groups. Psychologists will study human behaviour by observing, measuring and testing, resulting in conclusions about the motivations underlying behaviour which are rooted in scientific methodology. Psychology is both a thriving academic discipline and a vital professional practice.

Students will cover a variety of topics across the two years, ranging from theories of attachment and deprivation; the different models of memory and forgetting; psychopathology (phobias, OCD, depression); biological and psychological explanations of gender and aggression. There will also be a considerable emphasis on biopsychology and research methods.

TEACHING & LEARNING

Students will be taught by specialist teachers and will learn through a variety of methods, but there will be a focus on application and analysis of information, good essay-writing skills and the ability to evaluate between competing psychological approaches. Students will also be required to become familiar with a wide range of psychological studies and research methods.

ASSESSMENT

There will be three examinations, which each last for two hours. Examinations will consist of a mixture of short and long questions; the longer essay-style questions will be out of 16 marks. The marks are broken down into A01 – knowledge and understanding, A02 – application and A03 – analysis and evaluation, with an emphasis on A02 and A03 type questions.

SUBJECT COMBINATIONS

Psychology complements many different subjects including Biology, Sociology, Law, History and Maths.

CAREERS/HE INFORMATION

There are many different career paths open to a Psychology graduate such as working as a clinical psychologist, counselling psychologist, forensic psychologist, educational psychologist, health psychologist and many more.