

Department Title: Psychology

Exam Boards: AQA

**Department Vision:**

Among all the sciences Psychology is the most mysterious subject of all. We aim to address the misconceptions and explain how it is a scientific study of human behaviour. Psychology is a bridge between philosophy and physiology where physiology describes and explains the physical make up of the brain and nervous system, psychology examines the mental processes that take place within them and how these are manifested in our thoughts, speech and behaviour. The purpose of psychology is to give us a completely different idea of the things we know best. Psychology A level is two year linear course. The assessment is based on examination at the end of the two years. There is no course work and a scientific way of thinking is essential to the success of the A level. Psychology can lead to a variety of careers from medicine to engineering, from social science to a career in education.

**Year 12: Term 1**

Social Influence

Memory

**Year 12: Term 2**

Attachment

Approaches in Psychology (Cognitive, Behaviourist, and Biopsychology)

**Year 12: Term 3**

Psychopathology

Research Methods

**Year 13: Term 1**

Psychodynamic approach

Humanist approach

Research Methods

**Year 13: Term 2**

Issues and debates

Cognition and Development

**Year 13: Term 3**

Schizophrenia

Forensic Psychology

**Assessment:**

At end of each unit students are assessed using AQA examination questions and past papers. There are mock examination at the end of the first year to determine the progress they have made and predictions are based for their final A level grades. At the end of two years there are three external examination papers two hours long each.

**Reading list/Useful websites:**

<https://thepsychologist.bps.org.uk/ultimate-psychology-reading-list>

This website has a list of books and articles recommended by the British psychological society for wider reading.

The Psychopath Test, Jon Ronson, The Power of Habit, Charles Duhigg , Grit, Angela Duckworth and more.

A series of lectures on Tedtalks is also useful to provide an insight on the nature and content of Psychology as a sub

<https://www.ted.com/talks?topics%5B%5D=psychology>

**Related Careers:**

A degree in Psychology can lead to a variety of career choices both in science and social science. These are some of the areas a psychologist can work in; sport psychology, health psychology, neurological psychology, artificial intelligence, clinical, educational and research as well as forensic psychology.

The website below lists the type o careers British psychological society

<https://www.bps.org.uk/public/become-psychologist>