

# Psychology

**Level 3**

**A Level** *Course Leader: Ms S Toulson*

## Entry requirements

- High average point score with a range of grades from 4-9 with grade 5 in Maths, 5 in English and a 5 in Psychology GCSE if completed.
- Students who fall below this will need to complete a suitability assessment
- Excellent time management and the ability to write in an accurate, coherent and succinct way.
- Interest in wider reading and completing own research to support understanding within the variety of topics.

## Why choose this course?

Psychology is the scientific study of the brain and behaviour. This course will allow individual's to develop a deep understanding about the workings of the mind and be able to interpret behaviour. Students will engage in planning, conducting and interpreting research. They will also critically explore how research may affect the knowledge and ideas that are common in society.

Due to the variety of skills and topics, this Psychology A level can support students to access a great many higher education courses and careers.

This subject has no coursework. There are three 2 hour examinations at the end of year 13. Each examination requires students to be able to engage in extended writing and be able to apply psychological knowledge in detail.

## Web Links

[www.aqa.co.uk](http://www.aqa.co.uk)

**What does the course involve?****A Level - Year 1****Year 1 *Introductory topics in psychology***

- Research methods (embedded across all topics)
- Approaches in psychology
- Biopsychology
- Social influence
- Memory
- Attachment
- Psychopathology

**A Level - Year 2*****Psychology in context***

1 topic from each of the 3 sections

- Relationships or gender or cognition
- Schizophrenia or eating behaviour or stress
- Aggression or forensic psychology or addiction

Plus issues and debates in psychology as well as content from year 1 at a more advanced level

There is a 10 % mathematical element across the 3 examination papers.

All students will have access to a free online digital textbook to support their independent wider reading and revision.

**Possible career pathway**

The study of psychology provides a useful foundation for any degree course. It is also relevant for any job which requires inter-personal skills.

Research  
Social work  
Police service  
Nursing  
Educational psychology  
Human resources  
Teaching  
Therapy and counselling

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