

Are you interested in:

- explanations of human behaviour
- how the brain works
- how people's behaviour varies and changes

Leading to a career in:

- Scientific research
- Health and Medicine
- Education and Social Work
- Marketing and advertising

Teacher to contact: Mr T Watkins

Exam Board: AQA

A-level

There are 6 compulsory units in year 1:

- 1. Social Influence
- 2. Memory
- 3. Attachment
- 4. Psychopathology
- 5. Approaches in Psychology
- 6. Research methods



There are 5 additional units in year 2:

- 7. Biopsychology
- 8. Issues and Debates in Psychology
- 9. Relationships
- 10. Schizophrenia
- 11. Aggression

The topics are assessed by 3 x 2 hour exams:

Paper 1 – Units 1-4 33% of A- Level grade

Paper 2 – Units 5-7 33% of – A-Level grade

Paper 3 – Units 8-11 33% of A- Level grade

Each paper is composed of 3 sections, each worth 24 marks, with a mixture of multiple choice, short answer questions and extended writing.



Why study Psychology?

If you are fascinated by the idea of understanding the brain, if you want to grasp the complexities of human behaviour – A-level Psychology is for you. In lessons, you may be exploring various areas to do with cognitive, behaviour, developmental and even biological psychology by focusing on issues such as memory, child and adult developmental stages, social behaviourism, abnormalities in behaviour, physiological responses and psychological research methods. As you progress you will learn more about critical issues related to the mind, behaviour and thinking style by exploring the physiological and psychological explanations on specific issues such as biological rhythms, relationships, aggression, psychological disorders and many more.

Psychology will offer you a unique academic experience. You will learn scientific information such as the aims, procedures and findings of studies but you will also need to be able to evaluate these theories critically and provide relevant evidence. Some answers require you to be concise but there are also longer essay based answers, thus again providing diverse experiences and useful transferable skills, which can be developed through studying fascinating topics on human development.

Lessons will offer different learning opportunities with teachers who are enthusiastic about the subject, with written work conducted alongside discussion and paired work, presentations, videos and practical (experiments).

Most importantly, Psychology will give you an opportunity to learn, understand and evaluate issues happening around you in your everyday life, which can then be applied to the wider world. Thus, it is not just a factual subject but enables reflection on one's own experience.