

# A LEVEL PSYCHOLOGY



# A LEVEL PSYCHOLOGY (AQA)

This course aims to provide a broad, balanced and challenging introduction to a wide range of psychological theories, research studies and everyday applications.

A Level Psychology is recognised as a science A Level qualification.

Students will be assessed by three written examinations in the summer of year 2:

## **Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology**

Written examination: 2 hours

33.3% of qualification

*This paper covers four topics: Social Influence, Memory, Attachment and Psychopathology.*

## **Paper 2: Psychology in Context**

Written examination: 2 hours

33.3% of qualification

*This paper covers three topics: Approaches in Psychology, Biopsychology and Research Methods.*

## **Paper 3: Issues and Options in Psychology**

Written examination: 2 hours

33.3% of qualification

*This paper covers four topics: Issues and Debates, Cognition and Development, Stress and Aggression.*



# ENTRY AND SKILL REQUIREMENTS

## What are the minimum entry requirements for A Level Psychology?

- Grade 5 in GCSE English and GCSE Maths.
- Minimum of Grade 4/4 in GCSE Combined Science OR Grade 4 in GCSE Biology and another Science.

It is not necessary to have studied GCSE Psychology to take A Level Psychology.

Studying Psychology provides the opportunity to develop analytical skills, write essays and compile psychological reports.

Students will also develop their mathematical knowledge and learn about scientific research methods, including collecting and working with data.

These skills are relevant and transferable to many courses in higher education and the workplace.

## OUR APPROACH TO TEACHING AND LEARNING

- We have a flexible teaching approach but promote the need for students to complete homework, respect deadlines and work to the best of their ability.
- Students will take part in a range of learning tasks including flipped learning, research practicals, group activities, class discussions and presentations.
- In addition to timetabled lessons, weekly workshop sessions are available for students to benefit from individual or small group support as required.
- We use high-quality learning materials including our unique booklets which we produce ourselves. We also have a range of online learning and assessment materials.
- Wider background reading is encouraged in order to develop depth of understanding of the subject matter. A reading list will be provided at the beginning of the course and students will be directed towards websites to support A Level work in progress.
- Optional trips attended by Psychology students recently have included a Revision Day organised by Malvern College and a Criminology Conference held in Birmingham and a Revision Workshop presented by Tutor2U.

## PROGRESSION ROUTES

Psychology can be studied alongside a wide range of other Level 3 subjects including both arts and sciences.

Having studied Psychology, students can progress onto a variety of courses. Psychology is currently a very popular choice in Higher Education.

A qualification in Psychology may be relevant to a number of different career options including market research, advertising, social work, teaching, nursing, the police service and human resources.

Professional psychologists work in a variety of fields including industry, education and sport, as well as in the NHS and prison service.

## RECENT CHANGES TO A LEVEL PSYCHOLOGY

To meet new regulatory requirements, all new A Level Psychology specifications for use in England will:

- Be assessed by examination only - there is no coursework.
- Be linear, with assessment at the end of the second year.
- Involve assessment whereby at least 10% of the overall marks will require the use of mathematical skills. These skills will be applied in the context of Psychology and will be at least the standard of higher tier GCSE mathematics.

### **CONTACT US:**

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