

# PSYCHOLOGY

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## SPECIFICATION

A Level      AQA   Psychology   7182

## OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE

The course encourages students to study psychological concepts, theories and research studies; to develop skills of analysis, interpretation and evaluation; to develop an understanding of the different areas of psychology; to design and report investigations and analyse and interpret data; to develop an understanding of ethical issues in psychology, including the ethical implications of psychological research.

## CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

**A level:**      3 papers (2 hours each – 96 marks each) all include multiple choice, short answer and extended writing.

Paper 1:      Social Influence, Memory, Attachment, Psychopathology (All compulsory)

Paper 2:      Approaches in Psychology, Biopsychology, Research Methods (All compulsory).

Paper 3:      Issues and debates, Relationships, Schizophrenia and Forensic Psychology (These are optional and chosen by school. They may be subject to change).

## METHODS OF STUDY

A variety of learning experiences are explored including interpreting and analysing research studies and findings, class discussions and debates, individual and group presentations. There is also an important requirement that reading, note making and the completion of activities relating to particular syllabus themes be undertaken by the students in their allocated independent study time both in school and at home.

## SPECIAL FEATURES OF THE COURSE

Psychology is the science of human behaviour and experience. It involves observation and experimentation, the establishment of facts and the construction of theories which make sense of these facts. Psychology comprises a variety of approaches and subject areas such as Cognitive, Social, Biological, Developmental, Individual Differences and Research Methods. 25% is Biology; 10% is Maths content.

Students will have the opportunity to:

- Get involved with the lower school by helping to run a Social Sciences lunch time club.
- Visit a disused prison to learn about institutionalisation and experience life behind bars.