

## PSYCHOLOGY (AQA)



### INTRODUCTION

Psychology can best be described as the study of the mind and behaviour in humans and animals. Throughout the course the emphasis will be on studying and analysing behaviour and applying the findings to everyday human interaction. It will take the student on a journey from the birth of an infant and the attachment behaviour associated with being dependent on others through to the development of memory within individuals. Along this journey the student will learn about abnormalities within humans such as schizophrenia, aggression and other types of illnesses. In summary the whole complex process of being an individual and understanding other individuals within a complex and ever changing society is fundamentally at the heart of studying Psychology at both AS and A-level.

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:** Five Grade 7 at GCSE as well as at least a Level 6 in Maths and English

**EXAM BOARD:** AQA

**SPECIFICATION:** Psychology A-level (7182)

### MAIN TOPICS

- Paper 1:** Introductory Topics in Psychology:  
Section A: Social Influence  
Section B: Memory  
Section C: Attachment  
Section D: Psychopathology
- Paper 2:** Psychology in Context  
Section A: Approaches in Psychology  
Section B: Biopsychology  
Section C: Research Methods
- Paper 3:** Issues and Options in Psychology  
Section A: Issues & Debates in Psychology  
Section B: Relationships or Gender or Cognition and Development  
Section C: Schizophrenia or Eating Behaviour or Stress  
Section D: Aggression or Forensic Psychology or Addiction

### KEY SKILLS

Literacy, numeracy, information technology, analytical skills and communication skills.

### ASSESSMENT

Assessment takes the form of 2 examination papers for AS level and three for A-level. There is no coursework at present for the award of either of these courses.

## CAREERS

Psychology at A-level can be used as a useful introduction to further courses and careers such as: medicine, education, industrial relations, communication studies, social and community work, personnel and lots of careers where understanding human interaction is an essential feature. Following Psychology as a career can lead to employment within a variety of settings such as occupational, educational, sports, counselling, criminological or within a clinical setting working in hospitals.

