



Department Staffing

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Psychology Key Stage 5

Psychology is concerned with answering questions about human behaviour. It focuses on the science of the mind, behaviour and experience. It looks at how individuals think, what they do and the way they are affected by their biological make up and their wider social group. At AS level, the course focuses on developing a broad knowledge and understanding of the core topics of modern psychology. In the second year, students will cover topics such as schizophrenia, aggression and current debates in psychology. Throughout the course, students will be asked to use their knowledge of a subject and apply it to a scenario.

Topics studied in year 1

Paper 1 – Introductory Topics in Psychology

Section A – Social influence

Section B - Memory

Section C - Attachment

(research methods will also be tested in this paper)

Paper 2 – Psychology in context

Section A - approaches in psychology

Section B – Psychopathology

Section C - Research methods

Topics studied in year 2

Paper 2 – Psychology in context

Section A- Additional content for approaches

Section B – Biopsychology

Section C- Additional content for research methods.

Paper 3 – Issues and options in Psychology

Section A – Issues and Debates in Psychology

Section B – Cognition and Development

Section C – Schizophrenia

Section D – Aggression

(Research methods will also be tested in this paper)

Progression

In combination with other A levels or vocational courses, Psychology A level can lead to study at university on a range of courses. A degree in Psychology can lead into many career areas such as Clinical Psychology, Counselling, Educational Psychology, Criminal Psychology or Health Psychology. Other careers that Psychology could lead to include health and social welfare occupations, or commercial, professional and managerial jobs.

Exam Structure

In psychology, all students will sit AS exams at the end of year one; these will award an AS qualification. In addition, students continuing to study the full A level in year two will sit final exams, at the end of the course, which cover the full content from both years.

Year 12

Paper 1- Introductory topics in psychology 7182/1

50% of the total AS marks,

1.5 hours

Memory, Social Influence and Attachment: multiple choice, short answers and extended writing each section worth 24

marks

extended writing in which QWC will be assessed

Paper 2- Psychology in context 7182/2

50% of AS marks,

1.5 hours

Approaches, Psychopathology and Research Methods: multiple choice, short answers and extended writing each section worth 24 marks

extended writing in which QWC will be assessed

Year 13

Paper 1- Introductory topics in psychology 7182/1

33.3% of the total A2 marks,

2 hours

Section A, B, C and D: multiple choice, short answers and extended writing each section worth 24 marks

extended writing in which QWC will be assessed

Paper 2- Psychology in context 7182/2

33.3% of the total A2 marks,

2 hours

Section A and B: multiple choice, short answers and extended writing each section worth 24 marks

Section C: multiple choice, short answers and extended writing each section worth 48 marks

extended writing in which QWC will be assessed

Paper 3- Issues and options in psychology 7182/3

33.3% of the total A2 marks,

2 hours

Section A : multiple choice, short answers and extended writing each section worth 24 marks

Section B,C and D(one topic in each section): multiple choice, short answers and extended writing each section worth 24 marks

extended writing in which QWC will be assessed