

PSYCHOLOGY

Qualification Level	A Level
Exam Board/ Specification	AQA
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Why study this course?

Psychology is the scientific study of the human mind and behaviour. Through studying the subject you will explore the differing views in psychology as to how people are influenced in their behaviour in different areas of life. This gives an engaging and interesting insight into what makes people act in the ways they do in different situations.

Course content

Psychology will look at a variety of areas of introductory psychological study in the first year; this will include topics such as the following:

- Memory: different types of memory and the accuracy of eyewitness testimonies
- Attachment: how and why we form attachments in infancy and what effect this may have on future relationships
- Psychopathology: how we define abnormality, the characteristics and treatments of specific disorders (depression, phobias and OCD)
- Social Influence: conformity, obedience and minority influence
- Biopsychology : introducing the nervous and endocrine systems and their involvement in behaviour
- Research Methods: the research methods which underpin psychology (experiments, observations, self-report techniques) and statistical techniques

After this introduction to the field of psychological study in the first year students may then explore a range of topics in Psychology such as Gender, Schizophrenia and Aggression in addition to research methods, further biopsychology and issues and debates in Psychology

Exam/ Assessment structure

Psychology A level is exam based, with three papers taken at the end of the course. All papers include multiple choice, short answer and some extended writing activities

Papers	Time	% of Exam
Paper 1: Introductory topics in psychology	2 Hours	33.3%
Paper 2: Psychology in context	2 Hours	33.3%
Paper 3: Issues and options in psychology	2 Hours	33.3%

Higher education/ career links

Psychology is a popular and respected academic subject and can open the door to a number of different careers and higher education courses. There are also research prospects with a degree in Psychology in a variety of fields such as Clinical, Educational and Forensic Psychology. Psychology is also an important area in the field of business and the media

Entry requirements

Candidates will require English and Maths at grade 5

ELIZABETH WOODVILLE SCHOOL
SIXTH FORM