

# Psychology

Exam Board: AQA



## Course Summary

A Level Psychology includes some of the most popular and controversial psychology topics of study. You will explore aspects of human behaviour that will help your own learning and memory performance in daily life, while also developing an understanding of the causes of psychological disorders. You will study mental illnesses and abnormal behaviour including OCD, depression schizophrenia and phobias.

You will investigate the issues and debates in Psychology, covering topics such as gender, culture, free will and determinism, the nature-nurture debate, and holism and reductionism. In Year 13, you will study forensic psychology, including investigating serial killers and the profiling techniques used to catch them.

A Level Psychology involves a significant science and maths content and you will plan, carry out, present and analyse data from your own investigations. You will be taught about various research methods and develop an analytical approach to your work. You will build your knowledge of psychological concepts, theories and studies, and understand how to evaluate therapies and treatments in terms of their appropriateness and effectiveness.

## Entry Requirements

GCSE Psychology is not a requirement but where students have completed the course, a Grade 5 is required. A Grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics and a Grade 5 in GCSE Biology or a Grade 5-5 in GCSE Combined Science is required.

## Course Assessment

This is a linear course. This means that students opting for an A Level in this subject will be committing to a two-year linear course with all units examined at the end of Year 13.

## Where might it lead?

A Level Psychology is a challenging subject and the skills acquired can lead to a number of further education and employment pathways. Some of the more popular routes that graduates follow include the health profession, counselling and therapy, the police force, the judiciary and working within education.



“ Studying Psychology A Level has really helped me to understand the multiple explanations for why people act in certain ways. The lessons are consistently fun and engaging because of the subjects' fascinating nature. LUCY ”