

# Psychology

## PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Head of Department: Mrs S Harrison

Why choose the subject?

Psychology is the science of the mind. It looks at how individuals think, what they do and the way they are affected by their biological makeup and the wider social group.

You will study how people interact, change and develop, how we think, how the nervous system works, how we differ from animals and how we decide what is normal. You will gain an insight into the workings of the human brain and explore a range of psychological explanations of behaviour.

In Year 1 key topics include; cognitive psychology (memory), developmental psychology (attachment), research methods, biological psychology, social psychology (how we are influenced by others) and psychopathology (mental health).

In Year 2 key topic include; forensic psychology, schizophrenia and relationships.

Who is eligible?

Of course no previous study is necessary. Psychology requires a broad range of skills including good written communication skills, a retentive memory and analysis of research methods, studies and theories. Mathematics is not as important as good writing skills. You will need to be comfortable with a calculator and do a little statistical test.

## A LEVEL QUALIFICATION

Year 2017/19 Award Examination Board: AQA Advanced Level Award 7182	<b>Paper 1</b>	
	Description of Subject Content	Social Influence; Memory; Attachment and Psychopathology
	Length of Exam	2 hours
	Nature of Exam	Multiple choice; short answer and extended writing
	<b>Paper 2</b>	
	Description of Subject Content	Approaches in Psychology; Biopsychology; Research Methods
	Length of Exam	2 hours
	Nature of Exam	Multiple choice; short answer and extended writing
	<b>Paper 3</b>	
	Description of Subject Content	Issues and Debates in Psychology; Relationships; Schizophrenia and Forensic Psychology
	Length of Exam	2 hours
	Nature of Exam	Multiple choice; short answer and extended writing

## AS LEVEL QUALIFICATION

Year 2017/18 Advanced Subsidiary Award  
Examination Board: AQA 7181

### Paper 1

Description of Subject Content	Social influence; Memory & Attachment
Length of Exam	1 hour 30 minutes
Nature of Exam	Multiple choice; short answer and extended writing

### Paper 2

Description of Subject Content	Approaches in Psychology; Psychopathology and Research Methods
Length of Exam	1 hour 30 minutes
Nature of Exam	Multiple choice; short answer & extended writing

## STUDENT VIEW

## Psychology



Psychology is a truly fascinating subject. When first choosing my options for A Level I was unsure about starting an entirely new subject that I'd never done before, but I did and it was the best decision I made. In psychology you study a wide variety of topics, each are relevant to everyday life. If you are someone who is intrigued by our world, from human behaviour to the effects of the media, then psychology is for you. The teachers provide huge support and help you to develop your essay writing and analytical skills gradually, until you are completely confident and it becomes second nature. Each lesson in psychology is something different, the combination of practical work, debating, group lessons and teaching others ensures that each topic is memorable, which is extremely beneficial when it comes to revision. The teacher's enthusiasm and dedication to the subject is obvious, keeping lessons entertaining and enjoyable whilst learning.

Aimee Proctor