



Post 16 Prospectus: PSYCHOLOGY

Advanced Subsidiary (AS) & Advanced Level (A2)

Examining Board: AQA

INTRODUCTION

The Psychology A level course enables students to understand the complexities of human behavior by taking a scientific approach to studying and understanding people. The course is varied, both in the curriculum content and teaching methods used. The Psychology team comprises 2 teachers, both with a subject specialism in Psychology and with many years of A level teaching experience. During the course, students will learn about the various approaches to understanding behavior and the research methods used in Psychology. They will learn skills in data analysis, critical evaluation and the research process which will help prepare them for further education, apprenticeships and work.

AS Level (Stand-alone AS Exam)		Advanced Level (Decoupled Exam)	
1	Memory	1	All AS content
2	Attachment	2	Biopsychology
3	Social Influence	3	Issues and Debates in Psychology
4	Approaches in Psychology (including Biopsychology)	4	Gender
5	Psychopathology (Abnormality)	5	Forensic Psychology
6	Research Methods	6	Schizophrenia
AS ASSESSMENT		A level ASSESSMENT	
Paper 1: 1.5 hour exam Introductory Topics in Psychology		Paper 1: 2 hour exam Introductory topics in Psychology	
Paper 2: 1.5 hour exam Psychology in Context		Paper 2: 2 hour exam Psychology in context	
		Paper 3: 2 hour exam Issues and options in Psychology	

SUBJECT ENRICHMENT

Crime Conference – an insight into crime prevention, prison experiences from ex-prisoners and a talk from a forensic psychologist.

Brain Day – A one day tutorial in school all about the brain led by a professor of neuroscience. Includes a sheep brain dissection.

SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

General entry requirement for Post-16: 5 grade 4s at GCSE including English and/or Maths

Specific entry requirements: Grade 5 in Maths and/or best English and 5 in at least one Science

A STUDENT PERSPECTIVE

‘Studying Psychology has helped explain so much of what we encounter in everyday life.’ (Year 13 student).



Post 16 Prospectus: PSYCHOLOGY

Advanced Subsidiary (AS) & Advanced Level (A2)

Examining Board: AQA

WHERE NEXT?

This course can lead to a variety of higher educational courses such as Clinical Psychology, Forensic Psychology, Sports Psychology, Educational Psychology, Criminology, Business and Social Policy. In terms of career opportunities, the course develops written communication, data analysis and skills of analysis and evaluation. The social focus of the course provides students with many insights into areas like health, education, development and research. Therefore, this is a useful qualification for many fields of employment.

Psychology can also be beneficial for study in other areas such as:

Medicine	Media
Nursing	Research Scientist
Physiotherapy	Health promotion
Business	Advertising
Law	Teaching

STUDENT SUPPORT

- 'Open door policy' so students are able to access staff for help during study periods and outside of lessons
- Revision sessions leading up to exams
- Regular exam question practice and review lessons
- Checklists to allow students to monitor their progress through the course and to identify areas of strengths and weaknesses
- Resources to develop written communication skills
- Access to an online digital textbook
- Recommendations for extra reading and access to the Psychology Review magazine through the library

STUDENT SUCCESS

Many students have gone on to study pure Psychology at university each year including Russell Group universities. Related degrees that students are currently studying include Psychology and Business, Nursing, Sociology, Media and Communications, Criminology, Sports Science, Counselling and Teaching.

2021 Destinations

16/52 students went on to degree courses in Psychology/mental Health Nursing including:

- Student A – Psychology and Criminology Loughborough University
- Student B – Psychology at Nottingham University
- Student C – Psychology at Newcastle University
- Student D – Psychology at Glasgow University
- Student E – Psychology at University of York