



New Course for September 2015

A Level Psychology

Why choose A-Level Psychology?

This course offers an engaging and effective introduction to Psychology. Students will learn the fundamentals of the subject and develop skills valued by higher education and employers, including critical analysis, independent thinking and research.



Programme of Study

AQA

The units studied at AS will be assessed at the end of the first year. This will not count towards the award of the A Level at the end of two years of study.

AS Level

Introductory Topics in Psychology

This covers modules on Social Influence. This includes a study of conformity and obedience, including the work of Milgram. It also covers resistance to social influence.

Another module relates to Memory, including the multi-store model of memory. In addition, we will consider the accuracy of eyewitness testimony.

The final model considers attachment: both relating to humans and animals.

Psychology in Context

This unit covers Approaches in Psychology, including the history of psychology and biopsychology. A further module considers psychopathology, including abnormality cognitive behaviour therapy and OCD.

Finally research skills will be tested as part of this unit, and students will be required to undertake some research, and develop understanding of research methods as part of this assessment.

Both the above modules are assessed by examination (in Year 12 for AS and Year 13 for A-Level). Questions include multiple choice questions with shorter and longer answer questions as well.

A Level

The content studied at AS will be examined in addition to the following:

Issues and Options in Psychology

Compulsory topic: Issues and debates in Psychology

This includes a range of topics, including free will and determinism as well as gender and culture.

Optional topics:

- Relationships and/or Gender and/or Cognition and development
- Schizophrenia and/or Eating behaviour and/or Stress
- Aggression and/or Forensic psychology and/or Addiction

All units are tested through written examination

GCSE minimum requirements

Students should be very comfortable in writing essays, obtaining at least a GCSE grade B in English Literature or English Language. Also, a GCSE grade B in any one of Psychology, History, Geography or RS is required. Finally Maths GCSE grade B is recommended.

Course teachers – Mrs M Wong & Ms V Godsave

