



## PSYCHOLOGY

### COURSE CONTENT

The aim of A Level Psychology is to develop knowledge and understanding of different areas of the subject and how they relate to each other as well as a deep appreciation of the skills, knowledge and understanding of scientific methods.

**Year 1** comprises of four approaches:

1. Social Psychology covering topics such as obedience and prejudice
2. Cognitive Psychology which focuses on Memory
3. Biological Psychology exploring Aggression
4. Learning Theories which are about the effects of conditioning, reinforcement, and punishment.

**Year 2 Clinical Psychology** is about explaining mental health issues, and the different ways of treating them, topics include Diagnosis of mental disorders, Schizophrenia and OCD/Anorexia Nervosa. **Criminological Psychology** is about the definition and causes of crime and anti-social behaviour, and the identification and treatment of offenders. Topics include factors influencing eyewitness testimony and jury decision making. **Issues & Debates** is about Ethics, Practical issues in the design of research, Reductionism, Comparison between ways of explaining behaviour (e.g. two theories of prejudice), Psychology as a science, Culture and gender, Nature-Nurture debate, Understanding how psychological understanding has developed over time, Issues of social control, the use of psychological knowledge within society and Issues related to socially sensitive research.

### PREPARATION FOR STUDYING THIS SUBJECT

Look at Edexcel Psychology A Level specification (online) Ask yourself .... Is this the type of thing I am interested in studying? A Level psychology is about developing knowledge and understanding of scientific methods, the competent use of mathematical and problem-solving skills and an understanding of how different areas of the subject relate to each other. So be prepared to work hard to develop your knowledge and skills.

### ASSESSMENT

Paper 1: Foundations in Psychology.

Paper 2: Applications of Psychology.

Paper 3: Psychological skills.

Each paper is 2 hours.

### FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

- University of Hull to study Psychology
- University of Nottingham to study Midwifery
- Medical School to become a Doctor
- University of Leicester to study Forensic Psychology
- University of Brighton to study Law
- University of Northampton to study Sport and Exercise Psychology
- University Grosseteste University to study Primary Education with QTS

### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Full entry requirements can be found on our website. Please ensure you check these as some courses have subject specific requirements that must be met in addition to the general entry requirements to join our Sixth Form.

**QUALIFICATION:** A Level

**EXAM BOARD:** Edexcel

**COURSE LEADER:**  
Miss Manson



*"A-Level Psychology has given me a firm foundation on which to build when I go to university to study the subject at degree level"*

*"My future career will involve working with people and studying Psychology at A-Level has given me a good insight into human behaviour"*