

PSYCHOLOGY (AQA: A-Level 7182)

Why study Psychology in the Sixth Form?

Psychology is the science of mind and behaviour. It is a subject that forms a link between the biological sciences and the social sciences: thus if you have an interest in the human mind and behaviour then you will enjoy Psychology. We explore research into a variety of behaviours in an attempt to find answers such as 'Is there such a thing as evil?' 'How do you diagnose OCD?' 'Are each of the hemispheres of the brain responsible for different functions and behaviours and how would we know?' The subject combines particularly well with other social sciences or with, particularly, Philosophy and Ethics. Students who take Psychology need a combination of curiosity, scepticism and a keen interest in research.

To be a successful student of Psychology you need:

- A genuine interest in the subject
- A good command of written English with sound skills in Mathematics and Biology. At least a B in each of these subjects would be a sensible starting place.
- An enjoyment of reading case studies and reviewing experiments
- A fascination with the mind and how it works
- A willingness to work hard with motivation and self-discipline

Possible topics to be studied:

- Cognitive Psychology: How does memory work?
- Developmental Psychology: How do our childhood experience affect us?
- Psychopathology: Why do we do bad things?
- Approaches in Psychology: Looking at key thinkers in the field and their methods
- Various topics including: Addiction; Aggression; Gender; Eating Disorders; Relationships

A successful Psychology student has an appetite for understanding how scientific principles can be applied to human behaviour. If you are interested in people and inquisitive about their behaviour, this is the subject for you. High achieving Psychology students develop good analytical and problem solving skills, have a keen eye for detail and enjoy using evidence to develop academic arguments.



WHERE NEXT?

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Studied Maths, Further Maths, English and Economics