

Student Achievement 2016

Pass rate: 96% • A*-C Grades: 72%

Psychology is the scientific study of mind and behaviour and involves the examination of various theories and consideration of research studies. In Psychology you will look to answer questions such as:

- "Are mental disorders like depression genetic or learned?"
- "How does our memory work?"
- "How does childhood affect later romantic relationships?"

At the beginning of the course, we introduce you to all of the topics you will study and support you by showing you important study skills and resources available to help you succeed. There are also educational day trips and visits to enhance and enrich your studies.

Level: Level 3

Specific Course Entry Requirements:

College entry to include GCSE Mathematics minimum 5 and Double Award GCSE Science minimum CC. Please refer to the Entry Requirements section page 24 for further details.

Exam Board: AQA

What will I study?

In paper one, you will study Cognitive Psychology, Developmental Psychology, Social Psychology and Psychopathology. This includes finding out about how memory works and how accurate memory is. You will study the impact of early childhood experiences on development and why people conform and obey in social situations, as well as learning about phobias, depression and obsessive compulsive disorder. You will study the causes and treatments as well as how to carry out psychological research. Topics on paper two include psychological approaches which look to explain why we behave the way we do, including the Biological, Cognitive and Behavioural approaches. Additionally you will learn how psychologists conduct their research, from the methods they use to how they analyse their data. You will also study Biopsychology, which will include learning about the structure and function of various neurons.

In the second year of the A level you will study topics such as Stress and Aggression, which includes determining different causes of aggression and how stress affects the immune system and could lead to illness.

How will I be assessed?

100% Examination.

Where will this course lead me?

Psychology is very useful in any career that involves working with people, e.g. in the nursing professions, the police force, or teaching. Many students continue to study Psychology at university which can lead to a variety of careers including Clinical, Educational, Health or Forensic Psychology.

What support will I receive?

At the start of each topic, you will receive booklets. These contain the compulsory content of the course, as well as the key terms and the research studies that we refer to. The department takes pride in the level of support we can give you and a wide range of support will be available to you on the Psychology course. We run regular revision sessions and offer one to one support for any student that requires it. These will provide revision support and help with exam technique.

What is the department like?

We are a friendly department who are approachable and have an open door policy. There are five Psychology teachers and students can seek their support from any, not just their specific teacher.

Enrichment opportunities

Chances to take part in research studies with universities Trip to Chester Zoo

Head of Department

Zoe Dunn

Tutors

Kerry Flanagan
Angela Donaldston
Wendy Swift
Philippa Lee





St John Rigby College

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St John Rigby College reserves the right to make changes including courses offered, course content and entry requirements at any time.

